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HANSARD'S
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

THIRD SERIES:

COMMENCING WITH THE ACCESSION OF

WILLIAM IV.

41° VICTORIÆ, 1878.

VOL. CCXL.

COMPRISING THE PERIOD FROM

THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF MAY 1878,

TO

THE TWENTIETH DAY OF JUNE 1878.

Fourth Volume of the Session.

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1878.

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M O T I O N S.

—o—o—o—

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Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question :"—After long debate, *Moved*, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Mr. Fawcett* :)—Motion agreed to :—Debate adjourned till To-morrow.

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Moved, "That the Bill be now read a second time,"—(*Sir Harcourt Johnstone*.)

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Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £1,500,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to pay off and discharge Exchequer Bonds that will become due and payable during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879.

Resolution to be reported *To-morrow*; Committee to sit again *To-morrow*.

WAYS AND MEANS—

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

(1.) *Resolved*, That, towards raising the Supply granted to Her Majesty, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury be authorised to raise any sum of money, not exceeding £1,500,000, by an issue of Exchequer Bonds.

(2.) *Resolved*, That the Principal of all Exchequer Bonds which may be so issued shall be paid off at par, at any period not exceeding three years from the date of such Bonds.

(3.) *Resolved*, That the Interest of such Exchequer Bonds shall be payable half-yearly, and shall be charged upon and issued out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, or the growing produce thereof.

(4.) *Resolved*, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, the sum of £6,500,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

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Motion *agreed to* :—Bill read 2^d accordingly, and *committed* to a Committee of the Whole House on *Tuesday* next.

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SUPPLY—Order for Committee read ; Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair :"—

PROBATE, LEGACY, AND SUCCESSION DUTIES—RESOLUTION—

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "the present system of taxing the succession to property is partial and unjust, and, in the opinion of this House, ought to be re-adjusted,"—(*Mr. James Barclay*,)—instead thereof ..

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Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,000, be granted, &c."—(<i>Mr. Parnell</i> :)—After debate, Question put :—The Committee <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 34, Noes 49 ; Majority 15.—(Div. List, No. 147.)	
Original Question put, and <i>agreed to.</i>	
(2.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £5,390, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Department of the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer in Exchequer, Scotland, of certain Officers in Scotland, and other Charges formerly on the Hereditary Revenue"	667
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(3.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,848, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Fishery Board in Scotland"	682
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Consolidated Fund (No. 3) Bill—Resolution [May 23] reported, and agreed to :—Bill ordered to be brought in upon the Fourth Resolution (<i>Mr. Raikes, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson</i>); presented, and read the first time.	

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SUPPLY—Order for Committee read ; Motion made, and Question proposed,
“That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair :”—

COST OF THE INDIAN TROOPS—MOTION FOR A SELECT COMMITTEE—

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word “That” to the end of the Question, in order to add the words “a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the cost, direct and indirect, of Her Majesty’s Indian Troops serving beyond the old Indian limits east of the Cape of Good Hope,”—(*Sir George Campbell*,)—instead thereof ..

748

Question proposed, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question :”—After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*.

THE EASTERN QUESTION—POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT—THE INDIAN CONTINGENT—Observations, Mr. Rylands :—Debate thereon ..

762

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SUPPLY—*considered* in Committee—ARMY SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE FOR NATIVE INDIAN TROOPS—

(In the Committee.)

(1.) £350,000, Native Indian Troops.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* ..

802

NAVY SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE.

(2.) £398,000, Transport of Native Indian Troops.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* ..

805

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CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS.

(3.) £4,754, to complete the sum for the Lunacy Commission, Scotland.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* ..

812

(4.) £5,654, to complete the sum for the Registrar General’s Office, Scotland.

(5.) Motion made, and Question proposed, “That a sum, not exceeding £15,618, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Board of Supervision for Relief of the Poor and for Public Health and Vaccination Act, including certain Grants in aid of Local Taxation in Scotland” ..

814

After short debate, *Moved*, “That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,”—(*Mr. James Barclay* :)—Question put, and *negatived*.

After further short debate, Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*; Committee to sit again upon *Wednesday*.

Conway Bridge (Composition of Debt) Bill [Bill 150]—

Moved, “That the Bill be now read a second time,”—(*Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson*) ..

820

After short debate, Motion *agreed to* :—Bill read a second time, and *committed* for *Thursday*.

Under Secretaries of State Bill [Bill 181]—

Moved, “That the Bill be now read a second time,”—(*Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson*) ..

821

After short debate, Motion *agreed to* :—Bill read a second time, and *committed* for *Monday* next.

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Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Bill (No. 75)—	
<i>Moved</i> , "That the Bill be now read 2 ^a ,"—(<i>The Viscount Midleton</i>) ..	826
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<i>Moved</i> , "That the Bill be now read 2 ^a ,"—(<i>The Lord Selborne</i>) ..	827
Motion <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill read 2 ^a accordingly, and <i>committed</i> to a Committee of the Whole House on <i>Tuesday</i> the 18 th of <i>June</i> next.	
Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill (Nos. 22, 37, 76, 88)—	
Amendments <i>reported</i> (according to Order)	827
Bill to be read 3 ^a on <i>Friday</i> next.	
ARM—THE AUXILIARY FORCES—THE MILITIA—MOTION FOR A RETURN—	
<i>Moved</i> , That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return of the number of effectives in the Auxiliary Forces at the beginning of the financial year,—(<i>The Lord Stratheden and Campbell</i>)	828
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ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (NEW CODE)—MOTION FOR AN ADDRESS—	
<i>Moved</i> , "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to be graciously pleased to direct the amendment of the New Code of Regulations of the Privy Council on Education, by the omission of Article 'b' of the Code,"—(<i>Mr. Pease</i>)	842
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COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

County Infirmaries, &c. (Ireland) Bill [Bill 7]—	
<i>Moved</i> , "That the Order for the Second Reading be postponed to the 19th June,"—(<i>Mr. Meldon</i>) ..	858
<i>Moved</i> , "That the Order be discharged,"—(<i>Mr. O'Sullivan</i>):—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, <i>withdrawn</i> :—Second Reading <i>deferred</i> till <i>Wednesday</i> , 19th June.	

MOTION.

COMMITTEES—

Ordered, That Committees shall not sit To-morrow, being Ascension Day, until Two of the clock, and have leave to sit until Six of the clock, notwithstanding the sitting of the House,—(*Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbotson*.)

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) Bill—	
Bill <i>considered</i> in Committee [<i>Progress 24th May</i>] ..	860
After long time spent therein, Committee report Progress; to sit again <i>To-morrow</i> .	

WAYS AND MEANS—

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, the sum of £1,000,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

Resolution to be reported *To-morrow*; Committee to sit again upon *Friday*.

Medical Act (1858) Amendment (No. 2) Bill—Ordered (<i>Mr. Arthur Mills, Mr. Childers, Mr. Goldney</i>); <i>presented</i> , and read the first time [Bill 196] ..	
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ORDERS OF THE DAY.

SUPPLY—Order for Committee read; Motion made, and Question proposed,
 “That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair:”—

DISCUSSIONS ON THE ESTIMATES—Observations, Mr. Dillwyn:—Short
 debate thereon ..

Motion, “That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair,” *agreed to*.

SUPPLY—*considered* in Committee—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DE-
 PARTMENTS, FURTHER VOTE ON ACCOUNT.

(In the Committee.)

- “(1.) That a further sum, not exceeding £2,040,710, be granted to Her Majesty,
 on account, for or towards defraying the Charge for the following Civil Services
 and Revenue Departments for the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879:—
 [Then the several Classes set forth]

CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

- (2.) £54,505, to complete the sum for Law Charges.—After short debate, Vote
agreed to ..
- (3.) £138,097, to complete the sum for Criminal Prosecutions, Sheriffs' Expenses, &c.
 —After short debate, Vote *agreed to* ..
- (4.) Motion made, and Question proposed, “That a sum, not exceeding £133,210, be
 granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge
 which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of
 March 1879, for such of the Salaries and Expenses of the Chancery Division of the
 High Court of Justice, of the Court of Appeal, and of the Supreme Court of
 Judicature, as are not charged on the Consolidated Fund” ..
- After debate, Motion made, and Question proposed, “That the item of £6,821, for
 Salaries of Official Referees, be reduced by the sum of £3,000,”—(*Mr. O'Donnell*.)
 —After further short debate, Question put, and *negatived*.
- Original Question again proposed:—After short debate, Original Question put, and
agreed to.
- (5.) £47,440, to complete the sum for the Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Ex-
 chequer Divisions of the High Court of Justice.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* ..
- (6.) £70,274, to complete the sum for the Probate, &c., Registries of the High Court
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(12.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,884, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Police Courts of London and Sheerness"	989
After short debate, <i>Moved</i> , "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,"—(<i>Mr. O'Connor Power</i> :—After further short debate, Question put, and <i>negatived</i> . Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> .	
(13.) £295,190, to complete the sum for the Metropolitan Police.—After short debate, <i>Vote agreed to</i>	996
(14.) £870,948, to complete the sum for Police Counties and Boroughs (Great Britain.)—After short debate, <i>Vote agreed to</i>	996
(15.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £332,118, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Superintendence of Convict Establishments, and for the Maintenance of Convicts in Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies"	1001
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £331,518 be granted, &c."—(<i>Mr. Parnell</i> :—After short debate, Question put :—The Committee <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 14, Noes 208; Majority 194.—(<i>Div. List, No. 157.</i>) Original Question again proposed :—After short debate, Motion made, and Question put, "That a sum, not exceeding £331,668, be granted, &c."—(<i>Mr. Parnell</i> :—The Committee <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 18, Noes 213; Majority 195.—(<i>Div. List, No. 158.</i>) Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> .	
(16.) £365,409, to complete the sum for Prisons, England.	
(17.) £28,037, to complete the sum for County Prisons, &c. (Great Britain.)—After short debate, <i>Vote agreed to</i>	1008
(18.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £183,665, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Expense of the Maintenance of Juvenile Offenders in Reformatory, Industrial, and Day Industrial Schools in Great Britain, and of the Inspectors of Reformatories"	1012
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Item of £103,000 for Industrial Schools, England, be reduced by the sum of £7,000,"—(<i>Mr. William Holms</i> :—After short debate, Motion, by leave, <i>withdrawn</i> . After further short debate, Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> .	
(19.) £19,456, to complete the sum for Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum.—After short debate, <i>Vote agreed to</i>	1018
(20.) £18,690, to complete the sum for Revising Barristers, England.	
Resolutions to be reported <i>To-morrow</i> ; Committee to sit again <i>To-morrow</i> .	
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) Bill—	
Bill <i>considered</i> in Committee [<i>Progress 29th May</i>]	1020
After short time spent therein, Bill <i>reported</i> ; as amended, to be considered upon <i>Monday</i> , 17th June.	
Tenant Right (Ireland) Bill [Bill 31]—	
Bill <i>considered</i> in Committee	1032
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(*Lord Randolph Churchill*) 1216

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "and also into the practicability of establishing schools upon the denominational system,"—(*Lord Charles Beresford*.)

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DOVER AND CALAIS MAIL CONTRACT—RESOLUTION—

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Amendment proposed,

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- (1.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £134,520, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Expenses of Her Majesty's Embassies and Missions Abroad" .. 1258
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- (18.) £16,579, to complete the sum for Temporary Commissions.
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REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

- (20.) £735,698, to complete the sum for the Customs.
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ARMY EXAMINATIONS—LITERARY AND PHYSICAL COMPETITIONS—ADDRESS FOR A PAPER—

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—(<i>The Chancellor of the Exchequer</i> :)—Motion agreed to.	

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Highways Bill [Bill 95]—

Bill *considered* in Committee .. 1345
 After short time spent therein, Bill *reported*; to be *printed*, as amended
 [Bill 214]; *re-committed* for *Friday* next, at Two of the clock.

Inclosure Provisional Order (Orford) Bill [Bill 189]—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read a second time,"—(*Sir Matthew*
Ridley) .. 1348
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Sir Charles W. Dilke* :)
 —After short debate, Question put:—The House *divided*; Ayes 48,
 Noes 69; Majority 21.—(*Div. List*, No. 170.)
 Question again proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time:"
 —*Moved*, "That this House do now adjourn,"—(*Mr. Edward Jenkins* :)
 —After short debate, Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.
 Original Question put, and *agreed to* :—Bill read a second time, and *com-*
mitted for *Friday* next, at Two of the clock.

SUPPLY—Order for Committee read ; Motion made, and Question proposed,
 "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair:"—

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT—Observations, Mr. E. Jenkins ; Reply, Mr.
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SUPPLY—Order for Committee read—*continued*.

LAND TAX—RESOLUTION—Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "in the opinion of this House, the present system of Land Taxation is inequitable, and requires to be amended,"—(*Mr. O'Donnell*,)—instead thereof .. 1355

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and *agreed to*.

SUPPLY—*considered* in Committee—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—

(In the Committee.)

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

- (1.) £28,416, to complete the sum for Royal Palaces.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1359
- (2.) £4,950, to complete the sum for Marlborough House.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1360
- (3.) £24,723, to complete the sum for Houses of Parliament Buildings.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1360
- (4.) £97,608, to complete the sum for Public Buildings.—After debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1361
- (5.) £11,650, to complete the sum for Furniture of Public Offices. ..
- (6.) £141,045, to complete the sum for the Revenue Department Buildings, Great Britain. ..
- (7.) £33,330, to complete the sum for County Court Buildings.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1373
- (8.) £11,534, to complete the sum for the Metropolitan Police Court Buildings.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1373
- (9.) £90,300, to complete the sum for the New Courts of Justices and Offices.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1375
- (10.) £100,200, to complete the sum for the Survey of the United Kingdom.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1375
- (11.) £11,509, to complete the sum for the Science and Art Department Buildings.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1378
- (12.) £3,795, to complete the sum for British Museum Buildings. ..
- (13.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £60,050, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for the Erection of a Natural History Museum" .. 1382
- Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £40,050, be granted, &c.,"—(*Mr. Edward Jenkins* :)—After short debate, Question put, and *negatived*.
- Original Question put, and *agreed to*.
- (14.) £11,283, to complete the sum for Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1385
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- (16.) £7,500, to complete the sum for the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* .. 1386
- (17.) £9,310, to complete the sum for Lighthouses Abroad. ..
- (18.) £32,867, to complete the sum for Diplomatic and Consular Buildings. ..

Resolutions to be reported upon *Thursday* next; Committee to sit again upon *Thursday* next.

SUPPLY—REPORT—Resolutions [6th June] *reported* .. 1387

First Twenty-two Resolutions *agreed to*.

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ARMY—THE INDIAN SERVICE—Question, General Sir George Balfour;	
Answer, Colonel Stanley	1390

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SUPPLY—Order for Committee read; Motion made, and Question proposed,
“That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair:”—

TREATIES OF 1856 AND 1871—RESOLUTION—Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word “That” to the end of the Question, in order to add the words “in the opinion of this House, all future Treaties between this Country and Foreign Powers under which this Country is engaged, separately or in conjunction with any other Power, to interfere by force of arms, or by armed demonstration, or by the contribution of any military contingent or pecuniary subsidy, to attack or defend any Government or Nation with reference to its internal arrangements or foreign relations, or on any other contingency whatsoever, ought to be laid upon the Table of both Houses of Parliament before being ratified, in order that an opportunity may be afforded to both Houses of expressing their opinion upon the provisions of such Treaties,”—(*Mr. Rylands*,)—instead thereof .. 1391

Question proposed, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:”—After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*.

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agreed to.

SUPPLY—considered in Committee—ARMY ESTIMATES—

(In the Committee.)

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(2.) £535,400, Pay and Allowances of the Militia, including Militia Reserve.—After short debate, Vote <i>agreed to</i> ..	1444
(3.) Motion made, and Question proposed, “That a sum, not exceeding £74,400, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge for Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances, which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879” ..	1447
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After debate, Question put:—The Committee <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 126, Noes 7; Majority 119.—(<i>Div. List, No. 171.</i>) Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> .	
(5.) Motion made, and Question proposed, “That a sum, not exceeding £185,500, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge for the Pay, Allowances, &c. of a number of Army Reserve First Class, not exceeding 19,000, and of the Army Reserve Second Class, which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879” ..	1474

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Medical Act (1858) Amendment (No. 2) Bill [Bill 196]—	
<i>Moved</i> , "That the Bill be now read a second time,"—(<i>Mr. A. Mills</i>) ..	1483
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Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon <i>Monday</i> next,"—(<i>Mr. Macartney</i>). Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question :" —After short debate, Question put, and <i>negatived</i> . Words <i>added</i> :—Bill to be considered upon <i>Monday</i> next.	
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QUESTIONS.

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—Question, <i>Mr. W. H. James</i> ; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer ..	1493
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Valuation of Property Bill [Bill 94]—	
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Amendment proposed, To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "no re-adjustment of the system of assessment will be complete or satisfactory to ratepayers until a representative County Board is established, with power of hearing appeals on questions of value, and for securing uniformity of assessment," —(<i>Mr. Clare Read</i>).—instead thereof ..	
Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question." After debate, It being ten minutes before Seven of the clock, the Debate stood adjourned till <i>this day</i> .	1504

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The House resumed its Sitting at Nine of the clock.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

SUPPLY—Order for Committee read ; Motion made, and Question proposed,
“That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair : ”—

THE GALTEE ESTATE—MOTION FOR A SELECT COMMITTEE—

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word “That” to the end of the Question, in order to add the words “a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the statements as to the treatment and condition of the tenants on the estate known as the ‘Galtee Estate,’ in the counties of Cork and Tipperary, which were made in the evidence given during the second trial of John Sarsfield Casey in the Court of Queen’s Bench in Dublin,”—(*Mr. Gray*,)—instead thereof .. 1527

Question proposed, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question : ”—After debate, Question put :—The House *divided* ; Ayes 74, Noes 50 ; Majority 24.—(Div. List, No. 172.)

TURKEY—MURDER OF MR. OGLE—Observations, Mr. H. Samuelson ;
Reply, The Chancellor of the Exchequer .. 1561

Main Question proposed, “That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair : ”—
—Motion, by leave, *withdrawn* :—Committee *deferred* till *Monday* next.

PARLIAMENT — PUBLIC BUSINESS — Observations, The Chancellor of the
Exchequer .. 1567

Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill—Ordered (*Mr. Herbert, Mr. King-Harman, Mr. Dease*) ; presented, and read the first time [Bill 218] .. 1567

Public Works Loans (Ireland) Act (1877) Amendment Bill—Ordered (*Mr. James Lowther, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson*) ; presented, and read the first time [Bill 219] .. 1568

LORDS, MONDAY, JUNE 17.

Truro Bishopric Bill [H.L.] (No. 103)—

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Then—

Truro Chapter Bill [H.L.]—Presented (*The Lord Bishop of Exeter*) ; read 1^a (No. 112) .. 1569

THE EASTERN QUESTION—THE CONGRESS—ALLEGED AGREEMENT BETWEEN
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Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee, read .. 1572
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Corrib (Galway) River Bill [H.L.]—Presented (*The Lord President*) ; read 1^a, and
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ute Law Revision Bill [H.L.]—Presented (*The Lord Chancellor*) ; read 1^a (No. 114) 1573

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PRIVATE BUSINESS.

Aberdeen District Tramways Bill (by Order)—

- Moved*, "That the Bill be now read the third time" .. 1574
 Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months,"—(*Sir Walter B. Barttelot.*)
 Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question:"
 —After debate, *Moved*, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Sir Joseph M'Kenna.*)—After further short debate, Motion, by leave, *withdrawn.*
 Question again proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question:"—*Moved*, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Mr. Delahunty.*)—After short debate, Question put, and *negatived.*
 Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question:"—The House *divided*; Ayes 216, Noes 119; Majority 97.—(Div. List, No. 173.)
 On Question, "That the Bill be now read the third time?"—After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Bill read the third time, and *passed.*

QUESTIONS.

- ENDOWED SCHOOLS COMMISSIONERS—EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS—Question, Mr. Rathbone; Answer, Lord George Hamilton .. 1603
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 QUEEN'S COLLEGES (IRELAND)—THE ESTIMATES—Question, Major Nolan; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer .. 1612
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Epping Forest Bill [Bill 188]—	
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Valuation of Property Bill [Bill 94]—	
Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed to Question [14th June]:—Question again proposed:—Debate <i>resumed</i> ..	1624
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After further debate, Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill <i>considered</i> in Committee.	
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Inclosure Provisional Order (Orford) Bill [Bill 189]—	
Order for Committee read:— <i>Moved</i> , "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair,"—(<i>Sir Matthew Ridley</i>) ..	1657
After short debate, <i>Moved</i> , "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(<i>Mr. Parnell</i>):—Motion, by leave, <i>withdrawn</i> .	
Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill <i>considered</i> in Committee, and <i>reported</i> , without Amendment; to be read the third time <i>To-morrow</i> , at Two of the clock.	
SUPPLY—Order for Committee read; Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House will, upon Wednesday next, resolve itself into the said Committee:"—	
THE IRISH ESTIMATES—Observations, Mr. Parnell ..	1659
<i>Moved</i> , "That this House do now adjourn,"—(<i>Mr. O'Donnell</i>):—After short debate, Question put, and <i>negatived</i> .	
Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> :—Committee <i>deferred</i> till <i>Wednesday</i> .	
SUPPLY—REPORT—Supply [6th June],—Further Proceeding on Report [7th June] <i>resumed</i> ..	
1669	
Twenty-third Resolution read a second time.	
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £580,045, be granted for the Post Office Packet Service."	
Amendment proposed, to leave out "£580,845," in order to insert "£579,085,"—(<i>Mr. Fraser-Mackintosh</i>):—Question proposed, "That £580,045 stand part of the Resolution:"—Amendment, by leave, <i>withdrawn</i> .	
Original Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> :—Subsequent Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
Criminal Code (Indictable Offences) Bill [Bill 178]—	
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After short debate, Motion amended, and <i>agreed to</i> :—Committee <i>deferred</i> till <i>Thursday</i> .	
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Order for Consideration, as amended, read ..	1675
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Collection of Rates (Dublin) Bill —	
Motion for Leave (<i>Mr. James Lowther</i>) ..	1675
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PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING—NOMINATION OF SELECT COMMITTEE —	
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Public Health Act Amendment (Interments) Bill — <i>Ordered</i> (<i>Mr. Marten, Mr. Greene, Mr. Cole</i>); <i>presented</i> , and read the first time [Bill 221] ..	1680

LORDS, TUESDAY, JUNE 18.

Their Lordships met;—And having gone through the Business on the Paper, without debate—[House adjourned.]

COMMONS, TUESDAY, JUNE 18.

PUBLIC PETITION.

—o—o—o—

PARLIAMENT—PUBLIC PETITIONS—THE INDIAN PRESS LAW—POINT OF ORDER—Petition *presented* (*Mr. Gladstone*) .. 1681
 Petition *brought up*; and *ordered* to lie upon the Table.

QUESTIONS.

—o:0:o—

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 ARMY—CAVALRY FORCE AT LONGFORD—Question, Mr. Errington; Answer, Colonel Loyd Lindsay .. 1683
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 PARLIAMENT—MORNING SITTINGS—Observations, The Chancellor of the Exchequer .. 1684

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

—o—o—o—

Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Bill [Bill 4]—
 Bill *considered* in Committee [*Progress June 4th*] .. 1685
 After long time spent therein, Committee report Progress; to sit again upon *Thursday*.
 The House suspended its Sitting at Seven of the clock.
 The House resumed its Sitting at Nine of the clock.
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MOTIONS.

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS (SCOTLAND)—MOTION FOR A SELECT COMMITTEE—

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the operation of the Patronage Act of 1874, and its effect upon the reciprocal relations of the various religious denominations in Scotland, and to ascertain how far the people of Scotland are in favour of maintaining the connection between Church and State in that Country,"—(*Mr. William Holmes*) 1738

Amendment proposed,

"That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the present relations of the Established Church with the other Churches in Scotland, and with the people at large, and in particular to inquire how far the Church Patronage Act of 1874 has tended to remove the causes of disunion and dissatisfaction among the Presbyterians of Scotland, and what further legislation would most conduce to that end,"—(*Mr. C. S. Parker*.)

The Amendment, not being seconded, could not be put.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to appoint a Commission to inquire into the causes which keep asunder the Presbyterians of Scotland, with a view to the removal of any impediments which may exist to their re-union in a National Church, as established at the Reformation, and ratified by the Revolution Settlement and the Act of Union,"—(*Sir Alexander Gordon*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:"—After debate, *Moved*, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Mr. Dillwyn*.)—After further short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Debate *adjourned* till Tuesday, 9th July.

Epping Forest Bill

Select Committee *nominated*:—List of the Committee 1799

COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19.

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS—Election for the Southern Division of the County of Northumberland 1799

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Women's Disabilities Removal Bill [Bill 12]—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read a second time,"—(*Mr. Courtney*) .. 1800

Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months,"—(*Mr. Hanbury*.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question:"—After long debate, Question put:—The House *divided*; Ayes 140, Noes 220; Majority 80.

Division List, Ayes and Noes 1872

Words *added*:—Main Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to*:—Second Reading *put off* for three months.

Commutation of Tithes Bill—Ordered (*Mr. Cubitt*, *Mr. Arthur Vivian*, *Mr. Monk*, *Mr. Rodwell*); *presented*, and read the first time [Bill 222] .. 1875

Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Act (1877) Amendment Bill—Ordered (*Mr. Attorney General for Ireland*, *Mr. James Lowther*); *presented*, and read the first time [Bill 223] 1875

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<i>Moved</i> , "That the Bill be now read 2 ^a ,"—(<i>The Lord Bishop of Exeter</i>)	1875
Motion agreed to :—Bill read 2 ^a accordingly, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House on <i>Monday</i> next.	

COMMONS, THURSDAY, JUNE 20.

QUESTIONS.

METROPOLIS—COFFEE STALLS IN THE STREETS—Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor;	
Answer, Mr. Assheton Cross	1878
NAVY—SAILING REGULATIONS OF THE FLEET—Question, Mr. Gourley;	
Answer, Mr. W. H. Smith	1879
THE FRANCHISE—MANUFACTURE OF FAGGOT VOTES—EXETER—Question,	
Mr. Cole; Answer, Mr. Assheton Cross	1879
MINES REGULATION ACT, 1872—THE HAYDOCK COLLIERY ACCIDENT—	
Question, Mr. Macdonald; Answer, Mr. Assheton Cross	1880
ARMY—THE MEDICAL SERVICE—Question, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answer,	
Colonel Stanley	1880
CRIMINAL CODE (INDICTABLE OFFENCES) BILL—Question, Mr. B. T.	
Williams; Answer, The Attorney General	1881
POST OFFICE—POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS—Question, Mr. Muntz; Answer,	
The Chancellor of the Exchequer	1881
THE BRITISH BORNEO COMPANY—THE CONSUL AT SINDAK—Question, Sir	
Charles W. Dilke; Answer, Mr. Bourke	1881
THE BOARD OF WORKS—REPORT OF THE COMMISSION—Question, Mr.	
Gray; Answer, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson	1882
IRELAND—THE DISFRANCHISEMENT OF CASHEL AND SLIGO—Question, Mr.	
Gray; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer	1883
SCOTLAND—OFFICE OF LORD CLERK REGISTER—Question, Sir George	
Campbell; Answer, Mr. Assheton Cross	1883
SPAIN—THE "OCTAVIA" AND THE "LARK"—Question, Mr. Serjeant	
Simon; Answer, Mr. Bourke	1883
INLAND REVENUE—OUT-DOOR LICENCES—Question, Mr. Mundella; Answer,	
Mr. Assheton Cross	1884
POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—TELEGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT—COMMUNICATION WITH	
GRANARD—Question, Mr. Errington; Answer, Lord John Manners	1885
POOR LAW—CASE OF ELIZA LITTLEHALES—Question, Mr. A. H. Brown;	
Answer, Mr. Sclater-Booth	1885
SOUTH AMERICA—BRITISH CEMETERY AT MONTE VIDEO—Question, Sir H.	
Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Bourke	1886
POST OFFICE—EASTERN MAIL SERVICE—Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer,	
Lord John Manners	1887
THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT—APPOINTMENT OF SIR CHARLES DU CANE—	
Question, Mr. Baxter; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer	1887
PARLIAMENT—PUBLIC BUSINESS—Question, Mr. Dillwyn; Answer, The	
Chancellor of the Exchequer	1888

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Bill [Bill 4]—	
Bill considered in Committee [<i>Progress 18th June</i>]	1888
After long time spent therein, Bill reported; as amended, to be considered upon <i>Thursday</i> next, and to be re-printed. [Bill 224.]	

it right to say that on a future occasion the nail and chain-makers would make application to Parliament to be included within the protective clauses of the Act. He should be glad to learn the reason—if there was any—for this omission. The noble Earl then proceeded to say: Now, my Lords, with the permission of the House, I will make a passing observation upon the melancholy and awful state of things now prevailing in certain districts of the County of Lancashire. I do not presume to give an opinion—if, indeed, I have one—on the respective position of the two parties—the employer and the employed. I believe, however, that each side is fully and conscientiously convinced that it is in the right. I wish to say a word or two in respect of the operative class—that operative class with which I have so long associated, and which I have so long known—and my main object is to express a decided opinion—and here, at least, I may be allowed to have one—that the sad disorder and outrages which have disgraced those localities were the work of the idle, the vagabond, and the worthless, of which there is everywhere so large a supply—especially in our large towns and cities. I verily believe the vast bulk of the operatives whom I have so long known and valued are most anxious to obtain their ends by just and peaceful means; but, at the same time, I feel bound to say of them, as their old friend and associate, that it is the duty of the mass of operatives, who are peacefully disposed to render every assistance to the constituted authorities, and to come forward at once and declare that they have not had, and that they will not have, any measure in the line of conduct which can only bring on universal disgrace and ruin.

LORD WINMARLEIGH said, he fully concurred in the observations of the noble Earl, who had had for so many years the interest of the working classes at heart, and felt sure that the words he had uttered that evening would have the happiest effect in putting an end to the disturbances that were now occurring; indeed, he was firmly convinced that had the operatives of Lancashire listened to the observations of their intelligent leaders, the disgraceful proceedings which had taken place at Blackburn, and elsewhere in Lancashire, would never have occurred.

The Earl of Shaftesbury

LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEY said, that as a Member of the Commission which had sat to inquire into the operation of the Factory Acts, he should like to say a word or two on the first part of the noble Earl's speech. He knew very well the high authority which the opinion of the noble Earl carried with it; but he ventured to think that the Commissioners were justified by the evidence in making the recommendations they had, and that Her Majesty's Government were perfectly right in having drawn the Bill in the shape in which it was put before them. In regard to the nail and chain-makers, the Commission had a considerable conflict of evidence before them as to the effect of the trade of nail and chain-making on health. They sat in various towns in the Black Country, and took a great deal of evidence upon the question; and the general effect of it seemed to be that the occupation in question was not, on the whole, detrimental to the health of those engaged in it, and it was not carried on in large factories. But it was to be remarked that the great mass of the evidence they received in favour of extending the restrictions to those young women engaged in those trades came from men. The men felt that the women were competing with them, and they openly admitted it was a wages' question. The Commission considered, also, whether they could draw any distinction between the various kinds of nails made, and they considered the question whether they could get any line of distinction between the heavier and lighter kinds of chains and nails. After a lengthened investigation, they came to the conclusion that they could not prohibit altogether the employment of women and young persons in those trades, provided the hours were not excessive. He did not think the noble Earl was correct when he said they had no protection. The Bill they were now about to pass extended the provisions of the Act under which they were now working, by which young persons must be employed between 6 in the morning and 8 in the evening. By the Bill, their work must now begin at 6 or 7 in the morning, and end at the same hours in the evening, and they were to be allowed during the day an hour and a-half for meals. The Committee came to the conclusion that the hours were not excessive. He

thought the Bill would meet the requirements of the case, and would give great satisfaction.

Bill *passed*, and sent to the Commons.

ARMY RESERVE — ALLOWANCES TO FAMILIES OF RESERVE MEN.

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

EARL DE LA WARR rose to move for recent Correspondence between the War Office and Boards of Guardians with reference to the allowances to the wives and children of the Army Reserve men who have been called into active service. In the few remarks which he wished to make on this subject, it was not his intention to ask Her Majesty's Government to anticipate what they might propose to communicate to Parliament at a future time; but it was, he thought, desirable that Parliament should know on what grounds the allowances proposed to be given had been fixed; and he thought, also, it would assist in giving this information, if the Correspondence to which he referred in his Notice of Motion were laid upon the Table of that House. The case, as their Lordships were aware, was a new one. It could not have occurred before in its present form, as this was the first occasion on which the Act of Parliament, under which the Army Reserve was called out, had been put in force. There arose, therefore, a new question—What was to be done to provide for the families of those men? It might be argued that they should be treated in the same way as the families of other men in the Army were treated. But it must be remembered that those men, in many instances were, when they were called out, in a different position from what they were when they first entered the Army. Since they had retired into the Reserve, not a few had become settled in comfortable homes, and were engaged in employments where they were in the receipt of good wages. Many, for instance, were servants of railway companies, and were filling places of trust. But, by the summons which they had received, and which had been so readily responded to, much had of necessity been given up, and their families had become dependent upon other means of subsistence. It had been communicated officially by the Secretary of State for War that a

fixed allowance would be given to the wives and children of those Reserve men, and that the sum so fixed was 6*d.* a-day to the wife and 2*d.* a-day to each child. Now, it seemed to him that those sums could hardly be considered adequate as a means of support, and he did not believe it would satisfy the country as sufficient. In consequence, applications had been made to Boards of Guardians for further assistance, and a question had arisen whether out-door relief from the poor rates should or should not be given, and whether what was called the workhouse test should be applied? Now, he must say he was one of those who thought that this question ought not to have arisen. He could hardly conceive anything more detrimental to the well-working of the system of the Army Reserve than this—that the family of a man, who had readily and cheerfully obeyed the summons to serve his country, should be compelled to resort to parish relief, and even, perhaps, to the workhouse, to mingle with the idle and, it might be, with the worst class of the population. Not only, moreover, would it be a burden which ought not to be thrown upon the ratepayers, but he did not believe that the country would look with any degree of satisfaction upon such a result. But it must come to this if the allowance were not increased. He would ask—Was it possible that a woman could live on 6*d.* a-day and a child upon 2*d.* a-day in decent respectability to provide everything? and if there were small children to be taken care of, nothing more could be earned. Even if the husband should be able to save something out of his pay, it could not be more than would suffice for the house rent. It seemed to him that the case should be regarded as exceptional, and might be dealt with in an exceptional manner, without establishing any inconvenient precedent. It was considered so by the Act of Parliament, which treated it as a case of emergency. The country desired that adequate provision should be made for the families of those men, to enable their families to remain in comfortable circumstances until they could return to the position they had formerly occupied.

Moved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for recent Correspondence between the War Office and Boards of Guardians

or members of Boards of Guardians relative to allowances to wives and children of the Army Reserve men who have been called into active service.—(*The Earl De La Warr.*)

LORD RIBBLESDALE said, he knew, from his own observations, in the case of some men of the Reserve who were now under his command, a good deal of distress was felt by their families in the interval between the time the men left home—namely, the 19th of April, and the issue of the War Office Instructions of May 3rd for the payment of the separation allowance monthly in advance to their wives and children. He did not think that the wives and children of any of the Reserve men should be thrown on the parish by reason of the men having obeyed the call made on them; but it must be borne in mind that the wives of those men were in the same position—or, rather, were not in as bad a position—as would be the wives of men who were now serving with the colours if the latter were sent into the field. The men of the Reserve had, as the noble Earl had stated, been in good employment, and had had an opportunity of making some provision for their wives, which it was hardly possible, even with the greatest self-denial, for the married soldier to do when serving with the colours. The question was a rather difficult one, and their Lordships should not come to a hasty decision with regard to it. It seemed to him, if anything extraordinary was to be done for the wives of the men of the Reserve, it ought to be out of Imperial, and not out of parish funds. The question was, however, one which ought to be considered carefully. Any off-hand opinions on it would be valueless.

VISCOUNT BURY said, that if, after the explanation he was about to give, his noble Friend still pressed for the Papers, his right hon. and gallant Friend the Secretary of State for War would have no objection to their production; but he thought that his noble Friend, knowing what he was going to say to the House, ought to have framed his Motion rather differently. Only seven or eight Papers of the description of those referred to by his noble Friend had reached the War Office from Boards of Guardians, and not one of them touched the point which was the mainspring of his noble Friend's speech. If the noble Earl thought that in obtaining those Papers he would get

some support for the proposition that the allowances granted to the wives and children of men of the Reserve was not sufficient, he might tell him that no such allegations were made in any one of the communications from Boards of Guardians. He would not follow the noble Earl in the questions he had raised. As had been well remarked by the noble Earl, the question of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the provision made for the wives and children of those men was one which ought not to be decided off-hand, and on a side issue of a very different kind. If the noble Earl thought right to proceed with his Motion, he (Viscount Bury) should propose to omit the words "or number of Boards of Guardians," as some of these gentlemen might object to the production of what they might have written in their individual capacity.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY said, he was glad that his noble Friend (Earl De La Warr) had called attention to this matter. It was a very important matter, and a large number of persons were interested in it who had no one to represent them either in that or the other House of Parliament. No doubt, cases of great hardship were not uncommon. Only that day a letter was placed in his hands representing the condition of a very respectable family in a small town of his diocese. The wife had lived in comparative comfort and affluence with her husband while he was at home; he had now obeyed the call made on the Reserves, and the wife was left in a state of absolute destitution, and with her young child was obliged either to starve or beg—the only other alternative was to apply to the parish. He hoped this was an exceptional case; but there could be very little doubt that, when the matter was fully stated, the Government and the country would be fully alive to the importance of the matter. Everything which threw light on the question was most important. What could be more detrimental to the public service than that the idea should spread among the labouring class that when they were willing to serve their country—as it must be admitted they were—the country was indifferent to the sufferings of those near and dear to them? He did not believe that either the Government or the country was really indifferent to

them; but the labouring classes had no knowledge of what was being done in the matter, and everything which threw light on the circumstances would do good as tending to dissipate an impression which certainly, to some extent, and not unnaturally prevailed, and which was calculated to do a great injury to the public service.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE wished to express his opinion that this question was a most important one—no doubt, it was a difficult question also. He, for one, thought that when men came forward, through a sense of duty, and in response to the call of their Sovereign, their families ought to be supported. He had never been more distressed than on hearing that some of the wives and children of the Reserve men would be obliged to seek parochial relief; and it had even been suggested that the wives of men of the Reserves, who could not support themselves and their children, should have the workhouse test applied to them. He objected altogether to such treatment. What was needful should be done direct by the Government, and he could not for a moment suppose that objections to that course would be raised on either side of the House of Commons. He could not doubt the feeling of the House and the country; but the question was a difficult, delicate, and intricate one, and would require very careful consideration. The cases were very different. The circumstances of the families of some of those men were good; those of others of them were comparatively bad. No hasty decision in the matter ought to be come to; but he hoped that, whatever was decided to be done, it would be done by a grant from Parliament, to be carried out by Government officers, and not by the parochial authorities.

VISCOUNT CARDWELL said, he had heard the tone of this conversation with great pleasure. It was impossible to suppose that the Government and the country could have any ungenerous feelings in the matter; but he fully agreed in the remark that it would be imprudent of Parliament or the Government to express itself hastily on the subject. It was quite clear that this question must come under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. It was as yet in its infancy, and a reasonable time must be allowed for

due consideration how the emergency could best be met. He sincerely trusted that what the illustrious Duke had said would be borne in mind, and that no man's wife or children would be so dealt with that they or he should be regarded as paupers by reason of the fulfilment on his part of this honourable obligation to the Crown. At the same time, it must be remembered, also, that when they established the Reserve they made an important change. Under the former state of things, the theory was that the Army was a celibate Army. The permissions to soldiers serving in the ranks to marry were very few, and their position was exceptional; but when they invited 60,000 or 80,000 men to go into the Reserve, while giving the Government power to call on them to return to the standards in case of need, they virtually invited them to enter civil life, to marry, and to maintain themselves. A great many difficult questions naturally followed. At first, the number entering the Reserve were few—they were now increasing in considerable numbers year by year, and the question, therefore, was becoming of more and more importance. He was willing to believe that the Government would deal with the matter in a just, fair, and generous spirit; but he hoped that nothing would be done hastily. He thought the premature publication of isolated and, as yet, unconsidered cases of hardship might be mischievous, and could do no possible good. What the country would want to know was not what complaints had arisen, but how these complaints had been dealt with and redressed. He was willing to repose confidence in the Government, believing that its proposals would be generous, and such as to meet the necessities of the case.

THE EARL OF LIMERICK said, that although, in his opinion, the allowances were sufficient in the majority of cases, no doubt, there had been cases of hardship. The question was a difficult one, and careful inquiries should be made to test the statements of women representing themselves to be wives of men of the Reserve.

LORD WAVENEY was understood to suggest that a voluntary effort to assist the wives and families of the Reserve men ought to be encouraged.

THE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD hoped that his noble Friend would withdraw his

Motion for the production of the Papers. The subject was one of a very interesting character. It had already engaged the attention of the Government, and, indeed, of the country. One change had already been made. The wives and children of the men of the Reserve were now receiving money in advance instead of in arrear—which, of course, was an advantage, and which showed that the matter was one to which the Government were not indifferent. The production of the Papers asked for by his noble Friend would lead to a false impression, and, therefore, he hoped his noble Friend would not press for them.

Motion (by leave of the House) *withdrawn*.

House adjourned at Six o'clock,
till To-morrow, half past
Ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Thursday, 16th May, 1878.

MINUTES.] — NEW MEMBERS SWORN — Viscount Lewisham, *for* Western Division of the County of Kent; Benjamin Thomas Williams, esquire, *for* Borough of Carmarthen.

SUPPLY — *considered in Committee* — CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES, Class II.

PRIVATE BILL (*by Order*) — Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway, 2°.

PUBLIC BILLS — *Ordered—First Reading* — Under Secretaries of State * [181]; Lord Clerk Register (Scotland) * [182].

Second Reading — General Police and Improvement Provisional Order (Paisley) * [170]; Local Government Provisional Orders (Birmingham, &c.) * [165]; Public Health (Scotland) Provisional Order (Lochgelly) * [171].

Committee — Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) [44] — R.P.

Third Reading — Acknowledgment of Deeds by Married Women (Ireland) * [173], and *passed*.

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

DUBLIN, WICKLOW, AND WEXFORD RAILWAY BILL. — [*Lords.*] — (*by Order.*)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."

The Earl of Beaconsfield

Mr. M. BROOKS said, he felt it an imperative, but disagreeable and painful, duty to move that the second reading of the Bill be postponed until that day six months. He was induced to take this course from peculiar circumstances. Most English Members of Parliament had been in Ireland, and the majority of them travelled by way of Holyhead and Kingstown, passing in their way over a short section of railway, about six miles in length, from Kingstown to Dublin. Most of them, therefore, had an opportunity of judging whether that line was well or badly managed. He was of opinion—and he was fortified in that opinion by the declaration of the great majority of the citizens of Dublin—that the line had been mismanaged in a manner that reflected great discredit upon the Directors—most of them respectable, intelligent, and wealthy persons—and so mismanaged that it had materially injured the trade and property of the inhabitants of the district. Such being his opinion, he had felt it his duty, early in the Session, to call the attention of the Board of Trade to the subject, and to request them to institute an inquiry. The Board of Trade, accordingly, sent down Major-General Hutchinson, one of the Railway Inspectors of the Board, to the City of Dublin. That gentleman had made an inquiry, and had presented a Report, a copy of which he (Mr. Brooks) held in his hand, and which he would read in part. It was better, he thought, that he should take the observations of Major-General Hutchinson, rather than offer his own view of the facts. He had, however, found it impossible to devise any means for rectifying the abuses under which the citizens of Dublin suffered, except by an appeal to Parliament, fortified by a Report from the Board of Trade; because no Committee sitting upstairs upon the present Bill could deal with the question, as no one would have any *locus standi* before it. The Board of Trade had no power to deal with anything affecting simply the comfort of the passengers, and had no power to revise the fares, however excessive they might be. Neither the Board of Trade, nor any other public authority, had any power to compel the Railway Company to improve the railway carriages, no matter how discreditable they were. The Board of Trade had, however, placed in his

hands a copy of the Report of Major-General Hutchinson as to the condition of things on the line between Dublin and Kingstown. Major-General Hutchinson held his inquiry on the 30th of March, and he reported that the stations between Dublin and Kingstown—namely, Lansdowne Road, Sidney Parade, Booterstown, and Blackrock—were one and all deficient in that accommodation as regarded waiting-rooms, water-closets, and platform-shelters, which might reasonably be expected upon a railway having a large suburban traffic. Major-General Hutchinson pointed out that at Lansdowne Road the shelter on the down platform consisted of an open shed; at Booterstown there was no ladies' waiting-room, although it was the most important station between Dublin and Kingstown. Not only was there no ladies' waiting-room, but there were no water-closets or urinal, and the platform at all of the stations, with the exception of Lansdowne Road, varied from 19 inches to 22 inches above the rail levels. Most of the carriages had only one step, so that infirm persons experienced considerable difficulty in stepping in and out of the carriages. It was hardly necessary to remind the House that within the last few days one of the oldest and most respected Members of the House came to an untimely death on account of the defective arrangements at one of the London stations. Yet this was one of those defects which was capable of very easy remedy. In addition, there were no bridges or subways for communicating from one platform to the other, and, according to the Report of Major-General Hutchinson, this formed a constant source of danger, particularly at Booterstown, where the up and down trains stopped simultaneously, and very frequently. The complaint he had made to the Board of Trade was under various heads. One related to the accommodation at the different stations, and another to the excessive amount of the fares. Major-General Hutchinson stated that, whilst upon the Dublin and Kingstown Railway—a line six miles in length—the second-class subscription ticket was £12, the subscription for a similar distance on the London and North-Western Railway was only £7; on the London, Brighton, and South Coast, £6 10s., or 45 per cent less; on the Great Eastern, £7 10s.; the Great Northern, £7; the London, Chat-

ham, and Dover, £7 10s.; and upon a line at Belfast, of a somewhat similar suburban character, while the second-class subscription ticket between Dublin and Kingstown was £12, between Belfast and Bangor, for the same distance, it was only £8. The Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Company were established in the year 1848, and in 1856 they obtained a lease of the Dublin and Kingstown line. They obtained it on terms stated in the Preamble of their Bill—that if they obtained the lease, they would work the line more beneficially for the public. They obtained the lease on this understanding, and they immediately raised the fares, one and all, instead of reducing them; and the result was, that whereas the old Dublin and Kingstown Company were able to pay a dividend of 10 per cent upon the low and moderate and reasonable fares which they exacted, while happily for the citizens of Dublin they had the management of the line, the Company promoting the present Bill were able, by raising the fares, to extract from the unfortunate persons who lived on the line such further sums as enabled the two Companies to divide upon their capital the enormous dividend of 17½ per cent. Under the old system there was a return ticket of 6d. issued in the morning to workmen. The new management abolished this return ticket, and increased the second-class return ticket from 1s. to 1s. 2d. Major-General Hutchinson concluded his Report by stating that whereas, under the Act of 1856, by which the present Company leased the Dublin and Kingstown line, they were to make more advantageous arrangements for the public service, they had, in fact, exacted fares which, especially for season tickets, were unreasonably high. Major-General Hutchinson further stated that the complaints with regard to the want of reasonable accommodation of small-sized stations and the height of the platforms were well-founded; and, seeing that the Company were in a prosperous condition, the public had a right to expect accommodation of a superior class and character. The Company were now seeking to extend their powers; and he (Mr. Brooks) asked that Parliament should refer the complaint of Major-General Hutchinson and of the citizens of Dublin either to the Board of Trade, or to some indepen-

dent authority, which should decide that, in acceding to the present project, there should be some assurance on the part of the Company that they would mitigate the grievances of which Major-General Hutchinson complained. He begged to move that the Bill be read a second time on that day six months.

Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Mr. Maurice Brooks.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."

SIR GEORGE BOWYER, as Member for the County of Wexford, thought it was necessary that he should explain the reasons which induced him to oppose the Motion. The objections which had been urged by the hon. Member for Dublin did not touch the principle of the Bill, and were such as could be best dealt with when the Bill came before a Committee upstairs. The hon. Member had not said a word against the second reading of the Bill; and he therefore hoped the House would pursue the course which was usually taken in these cases, and read the Bill a second time, leaving its provisions to be considered by a Select Committee.

SIR JOSEPH M'KENNA could not concur in the views of the hon. Member for Dublin, who had moved the rejection of the Bill, and quite agreed with the hon. Baronet opposite, that most of the questions which had been referred to by his hon. Friend were questions for the consideration of a Committee upstairs rather than for the House. He was sorry to add, however, that it would not be within the province of a Committee upstairs to consider all these questions. While he hoped the Bill would be read a second time, he had no desire that it should be read under the impression that the matters complained of which affected the Dublin and Wicklow traffic could be remedied by a Committee upstairs. The object of the Bill was to enable the Company promoting it to make a continuation of their line from New Ross to Waterford; and he thought it would be altogether a mistake to prevent the only Company which was able to do this from carrying out that work because another complaint, upon an entirely different matter, had been made against them.

Mr. M. Brooks

For his own part, he did not think they ought to stop a public work that would be, on the whole, beneficial to the country, because the Company who were promoting the Bill had been in other respects negligent, and had not considered the interests of the City of Dublin. Although he generally acted with his hon. Friend the Member for Dublin, he could not agree with him on this occasion, but would support the second reading of the Bill.

MAJOR O'GORMAN expressed a hope that his hon. Friend the Member for Dublin would withdraw his opposition to the Bill. He had never in his life heard a weaker argument than the one which his hon. Friend had brought forward. The Bill was promoted by the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway Company. It was originated in the House of Lords, and it had gone through every stage required by the Standing Orders of both Houses of Parliament. It had been twice referred to the Examiners of Private Bills, and had been passed by them, notwithstanding opposition and the complaint that the Standing Orders had not been complied with. It had been referred by the House of Lords to a Select Committee, by whom it had been carefully considered before it was passed and reported. His hon. Friend appeared to have completely lost sight of the main object of the Bill, which was to construct a new line. His hon. Friend, he hoped unintentionally, had endeavoured to throw dust in the eyes of the House. The object of the Bill was to construct a line, which was urgently required in the public interests, extending from the town of New Ross to the Waterford and Dungarvan Railway terminus in the City of Waterford. If the opposition to the measure were successful, no railway could be made between these two important towns. And, in regard to that opposition, so far as the inconveniences now sustained in connection with the Dublin and Kingstown line were concerned, he was authorized to say that a contract had already been entered into for the building of a new station at Westland Row, which would cost £75,000. He was free to confess that the present station at Westland Row was disgraceful; but after the £75,000 had been spent upon it, it would not be so. The Company were also about

to enter into contracts for taking land, which would enable them to improve the condition of all the stations on the line. Under these circumstances, the objections urged by his hon. Friend fell to the ground at once. He hoped the House would not assent to the Amendment, which, if carried, would prevent an important railway communication being made between the town of New Ross and the City of Waterford.

MR. SULLIVAN suggested, as an Amendment to the Motion of the hon. Member for Dublin, that in place of postponing the second reading of the Bill for six months, it should be postponed for three or four weeks. The object of his hon. Friend would be fully attained by taking that course, and time would be given to enable the Report of Major-General Hutchinson to be circulated and made known among the Members of the House. Although differing from the hon. Member for Dublin to a certain extent, he wished to remind the House that if Westland Row station was going to be improved in any way it would be because of the action taken on the floor of that House by his hon. Friend. The improvement of that station was certainly necessary in order to wipe out a great scandal from the railway management of Ireland. The only reason why the present Bill was opposed was that it was promoted by a Company who had the management of the Dublin and Kingstown line. That had been execrably mismanaged. It was the filthiest line in the whole Empire, and Irishmen felt keenly that it would be a bad line even for the wilds of Connemara. Unfortunately for the character of the country, it was the line which English tourists first encountered when they crossed the Channel from Holyhead, and they naturally turned up their noses at what they considered a very dirty way of doing business. As to the grand Westland Row terminus that was to be built, he could only say that one of the humorous traditions of Dublin, in reference to the management of the Dublin and Kingstown line, was that the most remarkable event in the history of the line occurred within the last 10 years when, on the occasion of a member of the Royal Family going over, a porter was actually seen brushing out the railway carriages with a broom.

MR. RAIKES hoped the hon. Member for Dublin (Mr. M. Brooks) would not put the House to the trouble of dividing on the second reading of the Bill. The hon. and learned Member who had just spoken had expressed himself in terms certainly very strong; but he dare say not at all stronger than were deserved, of the management of the railway between Dublin and Kingstown; but, at the same time, he thought the suggestion made by the hon. and learned Member for Louth was one that would hardly recommend itself to the House on further consideration. The hon. and learned Member suggested that the Bill should be delayed for three weeks or a month, in order that the Report of Major-General Hutchinson should be studied by the House. He did not question that that Report might be studied with advantage; but he did not see what contribution its consideration would bring to the final conclusion to be arrived at with regard to this particular spur of the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway. The object of the Bill was to make a small extension of the main system of the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway—namely, from the town of New Ross to Waterford, and it did not apply to the Dublin and Kingstown line at all. He believed that the proposition embodied in the measure met with the approval of the landowners in the locality. It was supported by one of the Members for the City of Waterford (Major O’Gorman), and also by the hon. Members for Wexford and Youghal (Sir George Bowyer and Sir Joseph M’Kenna), who were supposed to represent the views of that part of the country. Under these circumstances, he did not think the City of Waterford and the town of New Ross ought to be deprived of the substantial benefit which they would derive from the construction of this railway. He agreed with the hon. Member for Youghal (Sir Joseph M’Kenna), that the objections to the Bill were not in the nature of objections which could be raised before a Committee on the measure, because the hon. Member for Dublin would have no *locus standi* before a Committee, and the Corporation of Dublin, who had been allowed a *locus standi* with regard to certain matters, had not raised the objections urged by the hon. Member. He (Mr. Raikes) thought that, upon the

whole, it would be a pity to punish the people of Waterford on account of the defects of a railway between Dublin and Kingstown; and it might be taken for granted, that now the attention of the Board of Trade had been called to the condition of the latter line, matters would not be allowed to rest where they did, but that something would be done with a view of insuring improvement. On this occasion he supported the second reading of the Bill, and he saw no reason why the House should refuse to send it to a Select Committee.

MR. H. HERBERT concurred in the remarks which had been made in regard to the disgraceful state of the Dublin and Kingstown Railway. It had been spoken of repeatedly, and he hoped there was at length some chance of obtaining some improvement of the line. The Report of Major-General Hutchinson concerned not only the Members of that House, but the whole of the public. The condition of the Dublin and Kingstown line was disgraceful, not only to the people of Ireland, but to the public at large. In journeying between London and Dublin the traveller, on his arrival at Kingstown, had to get ashore as he best could. Not unfrequently he was obliged to wait for half or three-quarters of an hour until the mails were got on shore. All the Company cared about was the mails, and they did not care a straw about the comfort or convenience of the passengers or men of business. He thought it would be disgraceful to allow this state of things to be continued.

SIR ARTHUR GUINNESS said, he had been authorized, by the Railway Company who were promoting the present Bill, to state that the Report of Major-General Hutchinson would receive its fullest and most liberal consideration, and that many of the suggestions contained in the Report were in the course of being carried out. He had no doubt that the present condition of the Dublin and Kingstown Railway was, in many respects, very unsatisfactory; but he believed there was every desire to effect an improvement, and he trusted the hon. Member for Dublin, under the circumstances, would withdraw the Motion he had made.

MR. BIGGAR agreed with the hon. Member for Dublin that all the arrangements affecting the Dublin and Kingstown Railway were of a most dis-

graceful character, and that it was perfectly legitimate to place pressure upon the Company, in order to compel it to reform its system of management, even by postponing the consideration of a Bill for another and independent line until some sort of security was obtained that the necessary reforms would be carried out. The general assurance given on the part of the Railway Company by the hon. Baronet the Member for Dublin (Sir Arthur Guinness) was by no means satisfactory or sufficient. All the Company promised was that they would take the Report of Major-General Hutchinson into favourable consideration. They knew perfectly well in that House what "favourable consideration" meant. It meant, in most cases, that there would be no more consideration on the subject, but that it would be quietly shelved. If the Bill were postponed for three or four weeks, the Company would probably be induced, in the meantime, to give a *bond fide* undertaking, in the form of a clause to be introduced into the Bill in its passage through Committee, binding themselves to carry out the reforms which were necessary, and which were asked for. One very strong argument for the adoption of this course had been supplied by the hon. Member for Chester (Mr. Raikes), when he stated that the hon. Member for Dublin (Mr. Brooks) had no *locus standi* to appear before the Committee in opposition to the Bill, and, further, that the Corporation of Dublin, as a Corporation, had no power to appear for the purpose of obtaining the improvement of any railway station beyond the scope of the present Bill. He thought the suggestion of the hon. and learned Member for Louth (Mr. Sullivan) ought to be agreed to. At the same time, the arguments of the hon. and gallant Member for Waterford (Major O'Gorman) were entitled to great weight; but, unfortunately, the promoters of the Bill, if they obtained their Act, could snap their fingers at the passengers, and the result might be that the reforms that were asked for would never be carried out. For these reasons, he hoped that the further consideration of the project would be postponed, and that an opportunity would be afforded to the House of forming an opinion as to the value of the reforms which were required by the public, and the promises made by the Company to carry them out.

Mr. Raikes

Mr. M. BROOKS said, he felt that there was considerable force in the observations which had been made by his hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Waterford—that the residents in one district ought not to be punished, by retarding the construction of a line, in consequence of the mismanagement of the Directors in regard to another part of their system. Therefore, with the leave of the House, he would withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill read a second time, and *committed*.

CHESTER TRAMWAYS BILL.

Ordered, That the Chairman of the Select Committee on Standing Orders be appointed Chairman of the Committee on the Chester Tramways Bill.—(*The Chairman of Ways and Means*.)

QUESTIONS.

STREET TRAFFIC—MILITARY BANDSMEN.—QUESTION.

Mr. BIGGAR asked Mr. Attorney General, If it is a criminal offence, punishable by summary conviction, for Volunteer and other regimental bandsmen to play tunes while marching through the streets of London or other English cities and towns; if Military have any greater privileges than civilian bandsmen as to playing tunes through the streets of English or Irish cities and towns, and, if so, under what statute; and, if, where there is no local Act or Corporation bye-law to extend the ordinary common and statute law, it is lawful for magistrates in Ireland summarily to convict and fine or imprison Military or civilian bandsmen for playing tunes while marching through the streets of Irish cities and towns as English bandsmen were constantly doing everywhere through England?

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir HARDINGE GIFFARD): Sir, in the absence of my hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General, who is unable to be here, I beg to answer the hon. Member's Question. In the terms in which he has put it, it is not a criminal offence in itself for Volunteer and other regimental

bandsmen to play tunes while marching through the streets of large towns. The 27 & 28 *Vict.* c. 65 enables street musicians to be given into custody for playing in the street near a house after being required by the householder to depart. Neither military nor civil bands have any peculiar privileges; but, in fact, it would hardly be contended that military bandsmen, in the performance of their duty, were street musicians within the meaning of the Act. I have said it is not an offence in the language of the hon. Member's Question; but it must be remembered that neither street musicians, nor bandsmen, nor anybody else are entitled to obstruct the Queen's Highway; and, treated as an obstruction, which it sometimes is, a band may be made a subject of punishment on summary proceedings both in England and in Ireland.

PARLIAMENT—LIABILITIES OF EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN—LEGISLATION.—QUESTION.

Mr. PULESTON asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether he will be prepared to introduce a Bill to regulate the Liabilities of Employers and Workmen this Session; and, if so, whether he can state the time?

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir HARDINGE GIFFARD), in reply, said, that a Bill dealing with the subject of the hon. Gentleman's Question was in course of preparation, and would shortly be introduced.

PARLIAMENT—CORRUPT PRACTICES BILL—LEGISLATION.—QUESTION.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, When the Corrupt Practices Bill will be introduced?

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir HARDINGE GIFFARD), in reply, said, that in the present state of Public Business it was impossible to give an absolutely definite answer to the Question, but that the Government hoped shortly to bring in a Bill.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT, 1873.—QUESTION.

Mr. WADDY asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been directed to the 75th section of "The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873," which provides

that a council of the Judges of the Supreme Court shall assemble at least once in every year, at a time fixed by the Lord Chancellor, to consider the operation of the Act, of the rules of Court, and other matters, and shall report annually to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State what, if any, amendments or alterations it would in their judgment be expedient to make in the Act, or otherwise relating to the administration of justice; whether the Lord Chancellor has ever fixed a time for the holding of such annual council; whether such annual council has in fact ever been held; and, whether such reports have been duly made at any time since the passing of the Act; and, if so, whether he will lay them upon the Table of the House?

SIR MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, in reply, said, that he had been informed that since the passing of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act rules of Court had been passed from time to time, all of which rules had been laid before both Houses of Parliament, in conformity with the requirements of the Act. Councils of the Judges of the Supreme Court under Section 75 of the Act of 1873 were held on November 20, 1876, and again on December 15, 1877; and at these councils it was determined that sufficient time had not been given for the working of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act to render it expedient to make any alteration or amendment which could not be carried into effect without the authority of Parliament.

ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

QUESTION.

MR. MELDON asked the Secretary of State for War, If it is a fact that the garrison of Woolwich has been so denuded of medical officers that the Government has been obliged to sanction the employment of private practitioners to assist in taking medical charge of the soldiers and their families; whether many other garrisons have not been left short of Army medical men; and, whether it is true that more than £5,000 is required to pay private medical practitioners in attending the troops in the field at the Cape?

COLONEL STANLEY: Sir, I am informed that the garrison at Woolwich has its full complement of medical officers, and

Mr. Waddy

no private medical practitioners are employed. Other garrisons, however, are short of medical officers. This is in some measure due to a number having been withdrawn temporarily for the purpose of undergoing special field training with the Army Hospital Corps at Aldershot. The increase of £5,000 referred to was taken for the employment of civil surgeons at the Cape, as it was found a more economical and desirable arrangement than an augmentation to the staff, as the services of these gentlemen will be dispensed with when no longer required.

MADRAS HARBOUR.—QUESTION.

MR. SMOLLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether Sir Andrew Clarke has inspected the harbour works at Madras, and has officially reported upon the present position of that undertaking; and, if so, if there will be any objection to lay Sir Andrew Clarke's Report upon the Table of the House?

MR. E. STANHOPE: Sir, it appears from the Indian newspapers that Sir Andrew Clarke has recently visited Madras to inspect the harbour works, but no official Report respecting his visit has yet reached this country.

THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE CROWN—THE INDIAN CONTINGENT.

QUESTION.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether the Articles of War made by the Indian Government for the government of Her Majesty's Native Indian Forces, and those portions of the Indian Penal Code which are adopted as forming a part of those Articles of War, have any force within the Island of Malta?

MR. E. STANHOPE: Yes, Sir. They will apply to the Indian troops at Malta.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM—THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

QUESTION.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE asked the Vice President of the Committee of Council on Education, If he can state when the Educational Collection of South Kensington Museum will be removed from the apartments under the National Portrait Gallery, so as to enable that gallery to occupy the space?

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON: Sir, we are now in communication with the Treasury upon this subject; and as soon as arrangements can be made by which the Educational Collection can be transferred to another place, we shall be ready to vacate the apartments now occupied by it.

TURKEY—MURDER OF MR. OGLE.

QUESTION.

MR. H. SAMUELSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether Mr. Consul General Fawcett's report of his investigation into the murder of Mr. Ogle by Turkish soldiers has arrived; and, if so, when it will be presented to the House; and, whether all documents relating to Mr. Ogle's murder at present in the Foreign Office will be laid upon the Table without delay?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: Sir, I understand that the Report has not yet been received at the Foreign Office, but that it is expected shortly. When it arrives, the Government will lose as little time as possible in laying the Papers upon the Table.

POST OFFICE—MAIL CONTRACTS.

QUESTION.

MR. HOPWOOD asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether it is the intention of the Government to invite tenders for a Contract or Contracts to carry the Mails on the termination of that now existing with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Shipping Company; if so, when it is probable that advertisements will be issued for the purpose?

SIR HENRY SELWIN-IBBETSON, in reply, said, tenders would be invited on the termination, on January 1, 1880, of the existing contract. A Correspondence was now going on between the Home and Indian Governments as to the terms on which those tenders should be invited, and as soon as that Correspondence was completed the terms would be made known.

SCOTCH BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

QUESTION.

DR. CAMERON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, To state in what order he proposes to pro-

ceed with the various Scotch Bills at present before the House; and, whether it is intended to take up any of them before Whitsuntide?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in reply, said, it was a matter of some difficulty to arrange when the Bills relating to Scotland could be brought forward; but his right hon. Friend (Mr. Assheton Cross) had sent him a note to the effect that he thought that the Roads and Bridges Bill might be taken at a Morning Sitting. The Government, however, could not make any positive promise on the subject. Due Notice would be given when the day was fixed. The Government would do their best to have the Bill brought on on Thursday. The Education Bill and the Endowed Schools Bill, having passed the House of Lords, were not so pressing. The Bills as to an Under Secretary of State for Scotland and the Lord Clerk Register, his right hon. Friend thought, might be taken on any convenient day that could be arranged.

ARMY—REGIMENTAL LIEUTENANT

COLONELS.—QUESTION.

GENERAL SHUTE asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether he can take steps to stop the supersession of regimental lieutenant-colonels now taking place by the action of paragraph (f), Article 22, Clause 124, of the Royal Warrant of September, 1877, whereby their positions have suddenly and considerably been altered for the worse; whether, if (as sanctioned by this late Warrant) appointments which a captain would be competent to hold are to qualify for the rank of full colonel, it will not tend largely to increase the list of colonels, which it is an object to reduce; and, whether, instead of thus lowering the standard of practical military experience required for the higher ranks of the Army by allowing an increased number of small appointments to be considered as qualifying for full colonel, he will consider the advantage to the public service of reducing the number to those higher appointments only, in the fulfilment of which, a real qualification for high command is likely to be acquired?

COLONEL STANLEY, in reply, said, he was afraid that he could only answer very generally the Question of his hon.

and gallant Friend. A small Committee had been appointed to consider this subject. The Committee had presented their Report; but he thought that it would be necessary to refer it back to them with reference to certain particular points.

ECCLESIASTICAL SALARIES (INDIA).

QUESTION.

MR. BAXTER asked the Under Secretary of State for India, When the Return regarding Ecclesiastical Salaries in India, for which an Address was moved last Session, will be laid upon the Table of the House?

MR. E. STANHOPE: Sir, the Financial Department in India has been directed by the Government of India to prepare this Return, but it must necessarily take a considerable time, and I cannot at present say when it will be received.

TEACHERS AND SCHOOL RETURNS.

QUESTION.

MR. P. A. TAYLOR asked the Vice President of the Committee of Council on Education, Whether the following extract from a letter lately sent to the Wigan School Attendance Committee by Mr. Cumin is to be understood as showing a change of intention since the favourable answer given in this House by Viscount Sandon on the 21st March in respect to the claim of teachers to be paid for making out the returns required to be furnished:—

"I am directed to refer you to paragraph 25 of the Minute which, in their Lordships' opinion, precludes the teachers of schools from demanding any fee for making the returns required under paragraph 8."

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, in reply, said, that the letter referred to by the hon. Member, written by Mr. Cumin, was dated the 16th of March. That was five days before the answer given by his noble Friend (Viscount Sandon); and, therefore, his answer would not be affected by that letter.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION, 1878—ASSISTANCE TO ENGLISH ARTIZANS.

QUESTION.

MR. MELDON asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether, having regard to the fact that the Royal Com-

Colonel Stanley

missioners for the Paris Exhibition, 1878, have (out of the moneys granted to them by Parliament) voted the sum of £100 to assist English artizans to visit the Exhibition, the Government are prepared to recommend that a sum be granted out of the same funds for a similar purpose in aid of the subscription now being made in Ireland to assist the workmen of that Country to visit the Paris Exhibition?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: Sir, the arrangement that has been made with respect to the grant for the Paris Exhibition is that it shall be entirely at the disposal of the Commissioners, subject to the control of the Treasury, and the necessity of providing proper vouchers. It would not be consistent with the arrangement that has been made that the Government should interfere in any way with the appropriation of that money, and such a suggestion as that contained in the hon. and learned Member's Question should be addressed to the Royal Commissioners themselves.

MR. LYON PLAYFAIR, as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Exhibition, answering a further Question by the hon. and learned Member, said, that he would remind the House that in 1867 Parliament granted for the expense of the British section £130,000, and on this occasion had only granted £50,000. Therefore, great economy was required. The utmost the Commission could grant for the benefit of artizans visiting the Exhibition was £100, and this would be applied through the Society of Arts, who were gathering subscriptions in order, if possible, to send artizans from all parts of the United Kingdom.

COAL MINES—THE BLANTYRE COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—QUESTION.

MR. MACDONALD asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If his attention has been called to the Report of Inspector Moore as to the explosion which took place on the 20th August 1877, in the No. 2 Pit, Blantyre, in which he states—

"That a fall of the roof took place in the waste close to them, which brought down some fire-damp. It ignited at their naked lights, and burned them both;"

whether Inspector Moore visited the survivor, Francis McMulty, to get any in-

formation as to the cause of the explosion to frame the Report, as the survivor alone could give a true account of the explosion; and, whether it be true that an order was given for the fireman Black to be prosecuted for a breach of the special rules; and, if so, why the prosecution was abandoned some time before the explosion on the 22nd October, by which he lost his life?

THE LORD ADVOCATE: Sir, I would remind the hon. Member that he has been long familiar with the terms of Mr. Moore's Report, and that Report correctly ascribes the death of one man and the injury of another to an explosion of fire-damp on the 20th of August, 1877. Inspector Moore did not visit the boy who was injured, because while in the pit he received information from a number of men who professed to have been present, and to have witnessed the accident. No order was ever issued, and therefore no order was cancelled for a prosecution against the fireman Black. It was the duty of the Procurator Fiscal to make an investigation, with a view to prosecute anyone concerned who might be legally liable for the result. The Procurator Fiscal had not completed his investigation at the time the second explosion took place, when Black lost his life.

MR. MACDONALD: The right hon. and learned Gentleman fails to notice whether Inspector Moore examined the boy or not.

THE LORD ADVOCATE: Sir, I was under the apprehension—misapprehension, it seems—that I had stated that Inspector Moore did not examine the boy because he had received in the pit information from persons who had seen the accident.

ARMY—THE RESERVE FORCES.

QUESTION.

MR. ALDERMAN M'ARTHUR asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether it is a fact that the wives of the men of the Reserve Forces who have been called out are required to produce certificates of their marriage and the birth of their children, involving a cost of about three shillings and seven pence for each certificate, before the allowance granted by Government is paid them; and, if so, what steps the

Government will adopt to save these poor people from such expense?

COLONEL STANLEY: Sir, the regulations require no such certificates as those mentioned; but only a declaration to be made by the Reserve man when he first comes up for service with the Colours, in which he gives the particulars of his family.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT BILL—MANAGEMENT OF RIVERS.—QUESTION.

MR. ARTHUR PEEL asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether, pending the passing of the County Government Bill, he will take any steps to carry out the recommendation of the Lords' Committee on Floods; and, whether he will introduce or facilitate any measure for placing the control and management of Rivers in the hands either of new Conservancy Boards or of existing Local Authorities?

MR. SCLATER-BOOTH, in reply, said, the clause referred to was inserted in the County Government Bill, not with the view of giving complete effect to the recommendations of the Lords' Committee on Floods, but with the object of taking a useful step in the direction indicated by that Report. The subject had not been lost sight of by the Government, and he hoped there would be more complete legislation with respect to it before long. He could not, however, give any assurance that he would lay on the Table any further measure dealing with it during the present Session.

MERCHANT SHIPPING—CARDIFF PILOTS.—QUESTION.

MR. PULESTON asked the President of the Board of Trade, Whether his attention has been given to the circumstances under which two Cardiff pilots were and are still suspended; whether the explanations which have been offered by the Cardiff Pilotage Board, in reply to a Memorial to the Board of Trade by the general body of Cardiff pilots against this suspension, are deemed to be satisfactory; if it be a fact that since these pilots were suspended several serious casualties have occurred to vessels while leaving the port of Cardiff; and, whether he is informed of the circumstances under which pilots were induced to take these vessels out?

VISCOUNT SANDON: Sir, my attention has been called to the circumstances to which my hon. Friend refers. The explanations which have been offered by the Cardiff Pilotage Board are not complete, and I have asked for further information from them. There is no record whatever in the Department of any serious casualties, other than collisions to vessels entering or leaving Cardiff, since the first pilot was suspended. The Receiver of Wreck for the district reports that "there have been some groundings where the damage has not been material," and none of these groundings have been of such a character as to necessitate their being reported as "casualties." Neither the Board of Trade nor their officer on the spot know anything of the circumstances in which pilots have been induced to take the vessels out.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS—HON. COLONEL WELLESLEY, MILITARY ATTACHE.—QUESTION.

MR. BENETT-STANFORD asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether the appointment of Military Attaché has ever been considered as a diplomatic appointment; whether any persons holding that position have ever been promoted into diplomacy in consequence; and whether on the contrary it has not always been held as a Military Staff appointment?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: Sir, I am informed that the appointment of a military *attaché* is made in the same way as that of all other *attachés*. When Colonel Wellesley's appointment was notified to our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, in 1871, his Excellency was told—

"To consider Colonel Wellesley as part of his diplomatic establishment, and to employ him in the business of the Embassy in whatever way he might deem most beneficial to Her Majesty's service."

The expenses of military *attachés* were, until 1859, always charged on the Diplomatic Estimates, and military men have on several occasions been employed in the higher posts of the Diplomatic Service, without having passed through the rank of ordinary *attaché*. Colonel Rose, afterwards Lord Strathnairn, Colonel Staunton, and Colonel Mansfield are cases in point.

SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS ON SUNDAY (IRELAND) BILL.

QUESTIONS.

THE O'CONOR DON asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether, under all the circumstances connected with the Irish Sunday Closing Bill and the interest evinced in it, he will give any facilities for proceeding with the Bill at an earlier hour in the evening than would otherwise be possible?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: Sir, I have always been most anxious, on the part of the Government, to fulfil the engagement which we entered into—that in the event of certain Amendments being adopted we should give facilities for the progress of the Bill. I understand that an agreement has been come to between the promoters and the leading opponents of the Bill that, if a fair opportunity is given for discussion, the discussion should take place on the merits of the clauses, and should not be merely of a dilatory character. In view of that arrangement, I have caused the Order for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) Bill to be placed as the second Order after Supply, and I propose to adjourn the Committee of Supply at a reasonable hour—say between 11 and 12—in order that there may be a discussion on the Bill.

MR. ONSLOW asked the hon. Member for Roscommon, Whether it is the intention of the Government to proceed with the Bill to-night; and, also, whether it is intended to put down the Bill for every Government night in the course of the Session?

THE O'CONOR DON, in reply, said, that the answer given by the right hon. Gentleman the Leader of the House was a sufficient reply to the first part of the Question; and of course, as the Government promised facilities for the Bill, it was his intention to proceed with it that night. With regard to the further progress of the Bill, he should certainly take every means in his power of pressing it on at any hour which the majority of the House thought a reasonable one for proceeding with it.

SIR JOSEPH M'KENNA asked, Whether the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer is aware that the agreement entered into upon

the last occasion applied only to the 1st clause?

THE O'CONOR DON said, by way of reply to the Question, he might at once say that it was not his intention to press the Bill farther than the 1st clause that night.

THE COTTON MANUFACTORIES—THE WAGES DISPUTE—RIOTS IN LANCASHIRE.—QUESTIONS.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT wished to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department a Question of which he had given private Notice—namely, Whether the right hon. Gentleman was in a position to state to the House any particulars as to the riots which had occurred at Blackburn and Accrington, especially with regard to the outrages which had been committed on the houses of Colonel Jackson and Mr. Hornby, what steps had been taken to suppress those outrages, and whether those steps had been successful?

MR. DODDS said, the Question of the hon. and gallant Member had anticipated one on the same subject which he intended to put; but he begged further to ask, If the Secretary of State for the Home Department would be good enough to inform the House what steps had been taken for the protection of life and property in the disturbed districts?

MR. ASSHETON CROSS: Sir, yesterday morning was the first time that I heard of these outrages, and of the burning down of Mr. Jackson's house. I immediately telegraphed to all towns where disturbances took place for full information as to the state of affairs, and asked what steps had been taken to preserve order. I found that the military had been called out before that time, and, in fact, before I received information of any rioting, though I am happy to say that no collision has taken place between the military and the persons inhabiting those districts. No one more deeply regrets than I do that the people should have committed outrages in any part of the country, and especially in my own county. The authorities are now, I believe, alive to the steps that they ought to take. I telegraphed again this morning that it was absolutely necessary that order should be preserved, and, at the same time, that I relied upon the greatest discretion being used on the

part of the authorities in all those places where it was necessary to have the presence of a military force. I have received, within the last few minutes, the following telegrams, and, with the leave of the House, I will read them, as they give all the information I possess:—

"From the Chief Constable of Lancaster county.—Rioting has been commenced at Burnley, where there are one hundred police, who have been reinforced by two troops of cavalry and the infantry stationed there. No disturbances in the country districts elsewhere have commenced at present; but I am apprehensive about Darwen. Three men shot and wounded near Accrington by private individuals (not by soldiers); particulars not yet to hand. No effort is being spared to restore order and to avert the actual employment of the military. The area now affected is very extensive, and the police have been for some days largely reinforced from other parts of the country. Since telegram was sent this morning military force has been withdrawn from Darwen, by order of the magistrates, and the Chief Constable fears that serious results may ensue."

That telegram was only received a few minutes ago, and I have not had time to reply to it. I have received the following telegram from the Mayor of Blackburn:—

"Peace since noon yesterday. Night passed very quietly. Shall keep present military force until strike is ended. No further excitement."

The Mayor of Burnley telegraphs—

"Thanks for your telegram. Town is still disturbed; but we have a good force, civil and military. Letter by this post."

The Mayor of Preston telegraphs—

"There have not been any disturbances at present, but an uneasy feeling prevails among the operatives. All possible precautions have been taken. The excitement appears to be subsiding. Will write report by next post."

A telegram from Burnley, dated 2.40 to-day, says—"Quiet prevails. Military are patrolling the streets." I have received also a message from the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, saying that the magistrates are alive to the situation, and are taking every possible precaution.

MAJOR O'GORMAN gave Notice of his intention to-morrow to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether any effort on the part of Her Majesty's Government has been made, or is about to be made, to reconcile the unfortunate differences existing in Lancashire between the millowners and

workers; whether it is true that in certain districts of Lancashire the operatives, having assented to the wages and conditions imposed by the masters, have notwithstanding been driven from their work by those very masters who have thus openly violated their own solemn engagements; and, whether, should the Government refrain from bringing about amicable relations between the mill-owners and the operatives, it is the intention of the Cabinet to proclaim the various towns where disturbances have occurred, as would long since have been done under similar circumstances in Ireland?

MR. SPEAKER: I have to acquaint the hon. and gallant Gentleman that the Question he has now offered to the House involves matters of argument, and it cannot be put in the form proposed to the Home Secretary.

H.M.S. "BEAGLE" — EXECUTION OF A NATIVE OF TANNA — JUDICIAL POWERS OF NAVAL COMMANDERS.

QUESTIONS.

In reply to Mr. GORST,

MR. W. H. SMITH said, that a Report had been received from Commodore Hoskyns in reference to the execution of a native of Tanna on board Her Majesty's ship *Beagle*. That Paper was being considered by the Admiralty, and would be laid on the Table in a few days.

In reply to Mr. CHILDERS,

MR. W. H. SMITH said, that the decision of the Admiralty with reference to the case would also be laid upon the Table at the same time.

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS (IRELAND) — REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

QUESTION.

In reply to Mr. OSBORNE MORGAN,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. GIBSON) said, the Commission had been for some time engaged in collecting information and making due arrangements for the proper prosecution of the important inquiries intrusted to them. Their next meeting would, he believed, be held on the 24th of May, and after that he understood they

would meet weekly. The time limited for the presentation of the Report was 12 months from the 22nd of January last; and there was no probability of their being able to present their Report before the close of the Session.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.



SUPPLY.—COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

THE BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM.

RESOLUTION.

MR. RITCHIE, in rising to call attention to the arrangements for admission to the Bethnal Green Museum, and to move—

"That it is desirable to give greater facilities for admission by extending the arrangements now existing on the three free days to five days in the week,"

said, the present arrangements were the same as those in existence at the South Kensington Museum; but arrangements which were suitable for the West End were by no means adapted to the East End of the town. For three days the Museum was open free from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M., and for three days it was open on a payment of 6d. each person entering, from 10 to 6. That so many pay days, which had been instituted for the sake of students, were not wanted he would be able to show by figures. In the month of March the attendances on pay days only averaged 27 each day, whilst on free days the average was 3,346. On the pay days, therefore, the Museum was practically closed to the public; and he trusted the Government would see the advisability of agreeing practically with his proposal. He quite agreed there ought to be one pay day; because there were many persons, other than students, who wished to examine the works of Art when there were not such crowds present as on the free days. There was, no doubt, some question of expense with respect to gas; but he did not think the question of fees, considering how small they were, was worth considering.

Major O'Gorman

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "it is desirable to give greater facilities for admission to the Bethnal Green Museum, by extending the arrangements now existing on the three free days to five days in the week,"—(*Mr. Ritchie*.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON said, the Bethnal Green Museum had, since its opening, more than realized the most sanguine expectations which had been entertained with respect to it. As it was a local institution, and there were many similar institutions, the Education Department undertook to lay down its rules, and those rules were the same as were in force at South Kensington. At the latter place large numbers of persons made use of the Museum on pay days; but in Bethnal Green, the population being of a different character, the number of persons attending on pay days was comparatively small. The Government felt that as there had been a large expenditure on the Bethnal Green Museum, it should be utilized as much as possible. At the same time, it was necessary that any arrangement which might be made with that object should not afford a precedent for placing on the Treasury an undue expenditure for objects of a local character. Before making any considerable change it had been necessary to inquire into various points. The increase in the number of free days would cause a loss of a considerable portion of the fees, and, in addition, a large sum—something like £1,200 a-year—would have to be spent in gas. That was an expenditure he did not think the Treasury ought to undertake. Considering, however, the case which his hon. Friend had presented to the House, he did not think it would be unreasonable to increase the number of free days to five, on the understanding that on the two extra days the gas should not be lighted, but that the Museum should be closed at six.

MR. RITCHIE said, he gladly accepted the proposal of the noble Lord, and hoped that he should obtain from him next year a still further concession.

Question put, and agreed to.

THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT—ASSIZES.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. PERCY WYNDHAM rose to call attention to the inconvenience arising from holding the Assizes for the Northern Counties at Manchester. The effect of the arrangements which previously existed was, he said, that many men committed for trial were detained in gaol for a number of months; and it was to obviate this that additional Assizes were instituted. The result was that prisoners, who would otherwise have been tried at Newcastle, Carlisle, and Lancaster, were now sent to Manchester, and the arrangement occasioned great inconvenience. Owing to the distance from their homes prisoners, on their discharge from prison, and those who were found not guilty, had great difficulty in getting back, and were, consequently, especially in the case of those who were youthful, exposed to great temptation. Then there was another and inevitable evil connected with the system. A man who was being tried near home could get witnesses on his behalf who would spare half-a-day or a day to give testimony in his favour; but it was difficult, if not impossible, to get men, especially of the working class, to travel from Carlisle to Manchester for that purpose. An additional Assize in each of the Northern county towns would meet the difficulty, and enable justice to be carried out with much greater certainty. Another point for consideration in connection with this matter was, that if a man were tried for a murder committed in a county where murder was a rare crime, or happened only once in three or four years, it was not likely that he would receive the same consideration from the jury if he was tried in a county, in every Assize calendar of which there were four or five murders put down for trial, as he would have if tried in the county where murders were rare. On that ground, it was undesirable to take men long distances from the scene of their offences to take their trial. He hoped the Government would see their way to adopting his suggestion.

MR. ASSHETON CROSS said, the House had decided that prisoners should not practically be kept longer in custody before their trial than three months, and it had therefore been found necessary to

hold the Assizes four times in the year. It was thought necessary, under the new arrangements, to try the experiment as to how far the grouping of counties could be carried out. He was quite willing to admit that this grouping had been carried out, in some instances, too extensively. He did not think it fair that prisoners from Carlisle should be taken all the way to Manchester for trial. And, as far as that was concerned, his hon. Friend might rest assured that it should not happen again. The question of grouping counties, and the making of the best arrangements for the holding of criminal Assizes, was at present under the serious consideration of himself, the Lord Chancellor, and many of the Judges; and, as they had not yet arrived at a definite conclusion, he hoped the House would excuse him if he did not go further into the consideration of the question.

MR. PAGET contended that the convenience of localities should be fully considered in any fresh arrangements that might be made, and that too much consideration should not be given to the convenience of Judges in any re-arrangement of the Circuits.

MR. FLETCHER was glad that attention had been drawn to so important a subject. He could corroborate all that the hon. Member for Cumberland (Mr. Percy Wyndham) had said; and he hoped the Government would be able to deal with the question in a satisfactory manner.

MR. MORGAN LLOYD thought the whole plan of holding Assizes for the trial of criminal cases only should be revised. He saw no reason why the trial of civil causes should not be combined with the trial of criminal cases at all the Assizes. He hoped the right hon. Gentleman the Home Secretary would seriously consider the point, and that before long there would be one uniform system applicable to the trial of all cases alike.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT said, that in common with those who took an interest in Legal Procedure, he felt great satisfaction at having heard the statement of the right hon. Gentleman the Home Secretary, that the re-organization of the Circuits, for the despatch of the criminal business of the country, was under the serious consideration of the Government. He was sure that that

statement would be received with no less satisfaction outside the House. He (Sir Eardley Wilmot) had last Session brought forward the subject of the inadequacy of existing arrangements for the despatch of civil business in the Provincial districts, especially at Manchester and Liverpool, at both of which places he knew that much dissatisfaction was felt. He hoped, therefore, that while providing greater facilities for the trial of prisoners throughout the country, Her Majesty's Government would also see the necessity of improving the administration of civil business, and meeting the obvious requirements of the public in that respect. He had submitted to the House, on the occasion to which he had alluded, a Memorial from the inhabitants of Manchester, by which it appeared that, in consequence of the limited number of days allotted to the trial of causes at Manchester, and owing to the Commission day at Liverpool coming immediately after that of that town, the civil business at Manchester was frequently hurried over, and important actions either withdrawn or referred at the last moment, to the great detriment and expense of the suitors, who complained that their matters were very imperfectly transacted. Whether the remedy for this should be more time given to the Assizes, or more Judicial strength, it was not for him to say. He had not had the good fortune to hear the able and eloquent speech of the hon. and learned Attorney General on a former evening, when introducing his measure for the amendment of the Criminal Law; but, from the report he had read in the papers, he was sure that the Bill about to be introduced by the Government would give general satisfaction, and he could not help saying that no more important measure had been proposed during the present Session. His right hon. Friend the Home Secretary could not do better than accompany the Bill establishing a Criminal Code by an improvement and re-construction of the existing very imperfect arrangements for the trial of causes, both criminal and civil.

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. Assheton Cross

SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

SUPPLY—*considered* in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF
PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS.

(1.) Question [May 13] again proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £376,545, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1879, for Stationery, Printing, Binding, and Printed Books for the several Departments of Government in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and some Dependencies, and for Stationery, Binding, and Printing Paper for the two Houses of Parliament, including the Salaries and Expenses of the Stationery Office."

MR. O'DONNELL said, he objected, in this Vote, to the sum of £289 for stationery for the purposes of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he must point out to the hon. Member that there was no item of £289 for the Queen's Colleges in Ireland.

MR. O'DONNELL said, they had been informed by the Government that a portion of this Vote was intended for the purposes of the Queen's University in Ireland, and they calculated that the amount that would be so applied would be about £289. In order to justify themselves in making that calculation, they quoted the figure given in the Estimates of a year or two ago, and it was for that reason he should move the reduction of the Vote by the sum of £289, unless the Government would give them an assurance that, under no circumstances, would any portion of the Vote be spent in the present year for the support of the Queen's University in Ireland. He maintained that this Institution did not deserve to receive any grant of public money. Of course, neither he nor any Irish Member would rise in his place on the present occasion to oppose a Vote of this kind without having good reasons for so doing. If the money which they were asked to vote for the service of the Queen's University were really intended to be devoted to promoting the usefulness of that Institution, they would not think of persevering in their opposition. But if they could show that such would not be the effect of the application of this

money, he thought they had a right to ask the Committee to diminish the Vote by that amount.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he must point out to the hon. Member that, while he would be in Order in objecting to the money being applied to a purpose which he deprecated, he would not be in Order in entering into any discussion of the merits of the Queen's University on this Vote.

MR. O'DONNELL was afraid he had misunderstood the ruling, because he failed to perceive how he could ask the Committee on his *ipse dixit* to reject the Vote. He apprehended that it was not sufficient for a Member of the Committee to say that he objected to this or that Vote, without stating the grounds of his objection. If he objected to public money being voted for the use of the Queen's University, he did so for a certain reason; but he could not presume to ask hon. Members to follow him blindly into the Lobby, without giving any reasons for the request he made to them.

THE CHAIRMAN said, the hon. Member seemed not to have observed that the proper time would come when that question would be discussed on a Vote for the purpose of the Queen's University; but the present Vote was one for the Stationery Office, and upon that it was desirable to keep the arguments addressed to the Committee within the scope of the matters relating to the Stationery Office.

MR. PARNELL remarked, that if the present Vote should receive the sanction of the Committee, a certain sum of money, amounting to £451,745, would be provided for the purposes of the Stationery Office. In looking at the purposes to which it was proposed to apply this money, he observed that a sum of £289 was to be applied to purposes—"No, no!"—he observed that stationery to the amount of £289 was to be issued—"No, no!"

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I beg to rise to Order.

MR. PARNELL: I am speaking to a point of Order.

THE CHAIRMAN ruled that the hon. Member for Meath was in possession.

MR. PARNELL said, he observed that it was intimated to them that £289 was applied for the purposes of stationery and printing in the Queen's University

in Ireland during the years 1876 and 1877. From that he inferred that, out of the sum which they were now asked to vote, a somewhat similar sum would be applied during the coming or present financial year for the same purposes—that was, for the purposes of the Queen's Colleges and University in Ireland. He objected to the Department applying any money for stationery or printing for the purposes of these Institutions; and he desired to have the opportunity of stating to the Committee the reasons why he thought that the application of that portion of this large sum which they were now asked to vote would be a waste of public money. Therefore, he wished to reduce the Vote by the sum of £289, which the Government had informed them they applied in 1876 and 1877 for the purpose of stationery and printing in the Queen's University in Ireland. The Chairman had said, just now, that they could discuss that question when they came to the main Vote. But there was no portion of the main Vote set aside for the purpose of stationery and printing for the Queen's Colleges; and if they discussed that question on the main Vote, they would do so without having any opportunity of fixing upon a particular item in the Vote. The item in reference to this point was now before them; or, if it was not, the Government had at least intimated very plainly to them that they would apply a certain portion of this Vote for these purposes to the Queen's Colleges and University in Ireland. Therefore, he submitted, with great deference, that he should be in Order in stating the reasons why he objected to having any portion of this money devoted to that purpose, and also in moving to reduce the amount of the Vote by the sum of £289 or £300, which the Government had intimated to them would be so applied.

THE CHAIRMAN said, the hon. Member would be in Order in moving to reduce the Vote before the Committee by the sum of £300 or £289, or whatever other sum he thought proper; and he might also justify that Motion by stating that he believed that some such sum was likely to be applied to purposes which he deprecated; but there was no item in the present Vote which raised the question of the Queen's Colleges or University; and therefore, in the event of

the hon. Member inducing the Committee to adopt his view, it would not have the effect of depriving these Institutions of any portion of the money that might be required for them. It would, therefore, be plain to the Committee—and, he trusted, it might be clear to the hon. Member—that any discussion of the constitution or merits of the Queen's University would be wholly beside the question now before the Committee.

MAJOR NOLAN wished to refer to what took place the other night. The hon. Gentleman the Member for Londonderry (Mr. Charles Lewis) then assured the Committee that, from his point of view, the proposed reduction of this Vote would be most disastrous to his Party in Ireland. He (Major Nolan) would not say it would be disastrous; but if they were to believe what the hon. Member for the City of Londonderry had said, the effect would be, at any rate, of very great importance. Consequently, he did not think it could be a waste of time on their part to discuss this Vote; and he thought his hon. Friends around him would be quite right in adhering to their intention to reduce it by £289, because that was the only sum in the Vote which was connected with anything that was objectionable from their point of view. They found the connection between the sum of £289 and the Queen's University established, because the Government had declared that in a past year that sum had been expended on that Institution. Now, the proposition which he made the other night he would venture to repeat to the Committee, and it was, that the sum of £289 should be omitted from the Vote, the Government taking that money later on, when the Committee were asked to pass the Vote for the Queen's University. It was, after all, a mere question of detail, whether they should vote the money for stationery for each Department separately, or lump the various sums together under the one head of Stationery Office. He did not say that it might not be better, and more convenient, under ordinary circumstances, to adopt the latter course; but he thought that it would be far better, in regard to a disputed item, that it should be taken in connection with the main sum of money voted for an Institution to which objection was taken. It might be thought that voting stationery and paper for the

Mr. Parnell

Queen's University was a small question; and although that might be so considered in one aspect of the case, yet it had really become a very large question for the Irish Members to consider whether they should pass any Vote connected with this particular Institution. If they had the great moral advantage of having the great majority of the Irish Representatives on their side, he thought it was obviously their policy on every occasion to oppose the voting of any money for the Queen's Colleges. It was only by taking that course that they would show the Irish people that their Representatives continued to do their duty, but that a majority of English and Scotch Members had determined to overrule them on this question. He would not enter into the great question of education, as another opportunity would be afforded for discussing that subject. But they had been taunted with coming there and begging for money from the Imperial Exchequer. Well, the Irish Members were willing now to show that they did not want public money. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer would adopt the suggestion that he had made, it would afford an easy means of cutting the Gordian Knot on the present occasion; but, otherwise, he hoped that the omission of the £289 would be pressed to a division, in order to show that the majority of Irish Members were anxious, on every occasion, to prevent money, or anything else, being given to the Queen's Colleges, until all denominations in Ireland had equally advantageous educational establishments.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said, he understood that at the present moment the Committee were rather engaged upon a question of Order, raised by the hon. Member for Meath (Mr. Parnell) and others, and that the point of Order was this—The Vote about to be taken was for a gross sum to be expended through the Stationery Office on all the Public Services in which stationery was required. Hon. Members found that a certain portion of that sum would, in accordance with the usual practice, be expended upon the Queen's Colleges. They desired to challenge the application of any public money to the Queen's Colleges, and they, therefore, proposed to omit a certain sum from the Vote, being about the sum which they

presumed might fairly be taken as representing what would be spent upon stationery for the Queen's Colleges. Then they said that, in order to justify themselves in making that proposal, it was necessary that they should show why with them these Colleges were an objectionable Institution, and why no public money should be given to them. Well, it might seem to them that it was unreasonable that they should propose to strike out that portion of the Vote unless they showed that, and they might say that they could not show it unless they were allowed to go into the whole subject of the Queen's Colleges. But, on the other hand, he apprehended there could be no doubt that the Rule which the Chairman had laid down was the one which must guide the Committee. It was that, in the discussion of this Vote, it was impossible for any Member, in a regular and orderly way, to go into the whole question of the merits of the Queen's Colleges; and the inference which he thought they must draw from that ruling was, that the present was not the proper occasion for the raising of that discussion. The hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Galway (Major Nolan) had said that the Government might alter the form of the Vote so as to get the Committee out of the difficulty which it was in by withdrawing the small sum that was proposed to be applied to the Queen's Colleges, and voting it hereafter when they came to the Vote for these Institutions. That would be an inconvenient way of proceeding, and really it would make no difference, because the withdrawal of £300 or £3,000 from the Vote would not in any way impede the expenditure of so much of the money as was voted for the Stationery Office being applied to the Queen's Colleges so long as they were, and continued to be, recognized as an Institution which was entitled to Government support. But what he would undertake on behalf of the Government—he believed that it had already been promised—was this—If when they came to the Vote for the Queen's Colleges that Vote should be negatived, he would undertake that no portion whatever of the sum voted for the Stationery Office should be applied to them. That would obviate the difficulty which had been suggested by the hon. Member for Meath (Mr. Parnell), who had said that they

might, perhaps, negative the Vote for the Queen's Colleges, but that as they had granted the stationery it would still be supplied to them. He really hoped that they would not be called upon to discuss any further the point of Order; but that hon. Gentlemen, if they thought it desirable to try the question, and put in what was in the nature of a protest on their part on the present occasion, would move a reduction of the Vote and go to a division, remembering that the question of the Queen's Colleges themselves would be a matter for subsequent discussion. As he had already said, more than once, the Government would take care that ample opportunity was given for the discussion of that important subject on its merits.

MR. BIGGAR said, he had never before heard a statement made by the Government to the effect that it made no difference whether a sum of money were struck out from the Votes or not, for that stationery would be supplied all the same to the Queen's University. He thought that was a most immoral doctrine, and one which struck at the root of the system of voting public money. He also thought that it was thoroughly unreasonable to ask Parliament to vote first, and then to hear arguments on the policy of the Vote. In his opinion, the only sensible plan was to allow the discussion to go on then.

MR. PARNELL wished to make a suggestion to the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell), in consequence of the allegation of the Government that the reduction of the Vote by £289 would not affect the supply of stationery to the Queen's University. He should suggest, if that were so, that the hon. Member for Dungarvan should withdraw his Amendment, and should move to strike out the entire Vote. He was very serious in his opposition to the Queen's University in Ireland; and he could not but think that the power that the Government assumed of applying money, voted for this purpose to any Department, was a very faulty way of applying the Estimates. It was very strange that sums of money should be accounted for in the Public Services by items, when they were not intended to be applied to the Services for which they were voted. It placed the opponents of any particular Service in a dilemma; and the only way in which they could protest against any sum of

money being spent on the Queen's Colleges would be by objecting to the whole Vote. For that reason, he should advise the hon. Member for Dungarvan to object to the whole Vote; and, in the meantime, the Committee would have an opportunity of discussing the other items included in the Vote. He was determined not to vote any sum of money to the Queen's Colleges without entering his protest against it; and if they could not object to the particular application of any sum of money by the Government, they must divide against the whole Vote. The fault lay with the Government in framing the Estimate in this manner. In future, he should consider that it would be desirable for the Government to arrange these matters in a different way, so that hon. Members who objected to any particular sum would be able to do so, without being under the necessity of opposing the whole Vote.

MR. CHARLES LEWIS observed, that it seemed to him that the Committee, to a certain extent, had suffered, in point of time and convenience, from the fairness and ingenuousness of the Government in dealing with this particular Vote. Had the Government moved, without specific details, for a supply for stationery for the Public Service, no one could have objected to the Estimate; but just because the Government had been fair and explicit in giving a larger amount of information as to the portions in which the stationery and printing was supplied to the different Departments, the Committee had been wearied by the various discussions on the matter. The objections raised, it was said, were conscientious ones; but when anybody said proudly that he did anything for conscience sake, he could not but suspect. He liked to hear a business argument and business reasons given when a Vote in Supply was opposed; but when he heard an item of £289 was objected to from conscientious motives, he could not but wonder that this should prove a dead fly in the ointment. This little matter it was which disturbed the digestion of hon. Members opposite, and which incited them to discuss, over and over again, the merits of the Vote for the Stationery Department. The hon. Member for Meath, who had last spoken, had recommended

that the Committee be divided against the whole Vote. Why did not hon. Gentlemen opposite at once challenge the whole Vote of £480,000, because £289 in stationery was supplied last year on account of the Queen's Colleges, if they really meant to take that course? Whenever they threw out a challenge to go to a division, it was accepted on that side of the House; but when it was thrown to them, they always delayed from it.

THE CHAIRMAN said, that the Question before the Committee was the Vote for the Stationery Office, and upon that the hon. Member for Dungarvan had intimated his intention to move an Amendment that it be reduced by the sum of £289. He had pointed out to him that it was quite competent for him to bring on that Amendment; but, at the same time, he thought it his duty to state that the Amendment was not yet before the Committee. He must, therefore, ask the hon. Member for Dungarvan, whether he intended to move that Amendment?

MR. O'DONNELL expressed his willingness to withdraw his Amendment, and to raise his objection to the supply of stationery to the Queen's University by challenging the entire Vote. He agreed with the hon. Member for Meath, that the Government provoked that course by the way in which they had framed the Estimates. He therefore moved the reduction of the whole Vote.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY would like to know whether the Vote of £450,000 was not to be applied for stationery in the different Departments? If that were so, he would wish to be informed in what way this sum of £289 was to be expended? No doubt it was to be applied, amongst other things, in providing three or four Institutions in Ireland with a certain amount of stationery; but he did not think that they were likely to get rapidly through the Estimates, when such arguments were addressed to the Committee as that they had just heard from the hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Charles Lewis). He had told them that when the Government applied to Parliament for a Vote of £450,000, the House ought to thank the Government for giving it any information as to the manner in which that large sum was to be expended. They did not, however, thank the Government for giving them

information, for it was the duty of the Government to furnish it, and it was the duty of the Committee to see that it was given. For his own part, he deprecated the enunciation of such a doctrine. Another point he wished to raise was this—It might be that when Parliament struck out a sum of £289 from the Estimates, as not applicable to a particular purpose, it would be within the power of the Government to take other means to perform the service which the House of Commons had said should not be performed. To that he entirely demurred, and he thought the Committee was interested in knowing whether or not it was correct; for, if so, Parliament had no control over the Estimates?

SIR HENRY SELWIN-IBBETSON observed, that he would first reply on the question of the information given with regard to the particular distribution of the Vote of £450,000, now asked for on behalf of the Stationery Office. What was done in the composing of the Estimates of the year was for the sums to be inserted on account of the stationery which each Department had demanded from the Stationery Office in the preceding year. At the end of the year, when the proper accounts were made up, the whole was put together, and it became possible then to draw up such a table as appeared in the Estimates, showing how the sum of money granted to the Stationery Office had been distributed. In that way a table, 1876-7, showed how the money granted at the beginning of that year was distributed. On the Estimates so prepared the Government asked the House of Commons to grant £450,000 for the Stationery Office. Supposing that the House subsequently agreed to the Vote for the Queen's Colleges, the sum allowed to the Stationery Office, even if minus the £289, would enable it to supply the demands of the Queen's Colleges. On the other hand, if Parliament refused to make the grant to the Queen's University, the Stationery Office, although they might possibly have been prepared to meet the demands of the Queen's Colleges, would not be justified in supplying them, and would pay the money back through the Exchequer. If this particular sum of £289 were now struck out, and the House subsequently agreed that the Queen's Colleges should